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THOMAS HUTCHINS

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF
VIRGINIA, PENNSYLVANIA, MARY-
LAND, AND NORTH CAROLINA

Reprinted from the original edition of 1778

EDITED BY
FREDERICK CHARLES HICKS



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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THOMAS HUTCHINS

THE first and only civil "geographer of the United States," Thomas Hutchins, was a man whose life and works are full of interest. Yet no extended account of him has ever been published, and only scant recognition has been given to his work.

There is evidence of the high esteem in which he was held by his contemporaries, both as an individual and in his public capacities. Hazard, writing to Belknap on July 13, 1789, says that he was "a man of good character, of polite manners, of great integrity, who made a regular profession of religion. He joined Dr. Rodger's church some time ago."* Belknap volunteered[†] to write an account of Hutchins's life to be placed in his *American Biography*, but unfortunately did not fulfill his promise. Had he done so, the labor of this fragmentary account would have been materially lessened. Belknap, however, could not have foreseen the extraordinary results that were to come from Hutchins's work while geographer of the United States. The importance of this work has become apparent only through the enormous growth of the public land system of the United

*Massachusetts Historical Society *Collections*, ser. 5, vol. iii., p. 139.

†*Ibid.*, p. 136, 143.

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States, now applied to an area many times larger than the whole federal territory in 1789, and under the administration of a special office of the Department of the Interior. The system of land platting now used by the Commissioner of the General Land Office is supposed to have been the invention of Thomas Hutchins. A little more than three years before his death, his survey of public lands in Ohio was commenced. At the time of his death, he had surveyed four of the "seven ranges," and had put in practice the rectangular system of dividing lands in squares of one mile with meridian lines, marking on the corner-posts the number of the section, town, and range. The only part of this system that has been changed in the surveys of today is the method of numbering the sections.

So simple and effective has this system proved that no one other circumstance has so facilitated the settlement of the West. It has enabled large tracts to be platted with accuracy and despatch, opened them to systematic settlement on a sound basis, and reduced to a minimum vexatious suits over boundary lines. While the question of the authorship of this system may never be settled absolutely, it is certain that to no one belongs a greater meed of praise than to the man who first applied the system in the "seven ranges" from which has spread out the great network of western surveys.

Were this Hutchins's only achievement it would justify an examination into the events of his life.

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But his ceaseless activity and great ability repay this attention regardless of his position as official geographer. By his travels in the western country he contributed to one of the greatest influences in American history, namely, the influence of *movement*. His pioneer work, and his surveys of roads and of land tracts, when recorded in his books and maps, showed, first, what there was to be attained, and, second, how it might be reached. Almost from boyhood his life took on the pioneer character, and his work was largely done in an official capacity.

Thomas Hutchins was born in Monmouth County, New Jersey, in 1730. "His parents dying while he was young, an uncommon diffidence and modesty would not permit him to apply for protection or employment from his relatives, who were very respectable, at New York, and would have been very ready to assist him; but rather chose to seek some business; and accordingly before he was sixteen, went to the Western Country, where he was soon appointed an ensign, and paymaster-general to the forces there."* Hutchins says in his memorial to Franklin[†] in 1780 that he has served "as a British officer more than twenty-two years." This statement is supported by the official records. He did not, however, commence his military experience as an ensign. When troubles preliminary to the French and Indian War began to be

**New York Daily Gazette*, May 20, 1789.

†See *post*, p. 24.

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fomented, the colonies were called upon to raise, at their own expense, troops for the protection of their western frontier. In 1755, England had in America only one thousand regular soldiers. The colony of Pennsylvania raised a regiment in which Hutchins received a commission as lieutenant on December 18, 1757.* In less than a year, June 7, 1758, he was promoted to the position of quartermaster in Col. Hugh Mercer's battalion.† It was just at this juncture that General Forbes was assembling his army at Carlisle. Undismayed by General Grant's defeat of September 14, General Forbes pressed forward toward Fort Duquesne, within one day's march of which he arrived on November 24, 1758. The French, fearing his approach, burned and abandoned the fort. On the next day, Forbes occupied the deserted site, which he garrisoned with the provincials under Colonel Mercer, while he marched on to Lancaster, Reading, and Philadelphia. Hutchins was in this garrison at Fort Duquesne, thenceforth to be called Fort Pitt, serving as lieutenant and quartermaster. At the death of General Forbes in 1759, General Stanwick succeeded him. In the list of officers stationed at Fort Pitt on July 9, 1759, we find the name "Lieutenant Hutchins;"‡ so that he was present during the building of the formidable fort undertaken in August by General Stanwick. That

**Pennsylvania Archives*, ser. 1, vol. iii, p. 337; ser. 2, vol. ii., pp. 545, 558.

†*Ibid.*, ser. 2, vol. ii., p. 563.

‡*The Olden Time*, edited by Neville B. Craig, vol. i., p. 195.

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he was still in Fort Pitt on August 6, 1759, is shown by the fact that on that date he addressed a letter to "Captⁿ. James Young, Paymaster to the Pennsylvania Troops," in which he quotes information concerning Indian affairs which had been received by Colonel Mereer on August 4 and 5. The letter is endorsed by "Lieut. Hutchins."

Hutchins's name does not appear in the "List of the officers of the Pennsylvania regiment, for the year 1760."^{*} Having acquired a taste for military service, he evidently determined to adopt it as a profession. Accordingly we find in "A list of officers who served in the Pennsylvania reg't of 3 batt'ns, A. D. 1758 & '59, with their ranks they were promoted to after that time," that Hutchins has entered the "Regular Service."[†] The name "Thomas Hutchinson" appears in the official British army-lists for the years 1763 and 1764, among the ensigns in the 60th or Royal American regiment of foot under the command of Sir Jeffery Amherst. The date of Hutchinson's first connection with the army, and of his commission as ensign is given as "2 Mar. 1762." In the lists for 1765, 1766, 1767, and 1768 is given the name "Thomas Hutchins" in the same relative position in the list of ensigns, and with the same date of commission. "Hutchinson" is therefore probably a misprint for "Hutchins," so that it seems likely that Hutchins's connection with the regular British

^{*}*Pennsylvania Archives*, ser. 2, vol. ii., p. 563.

[†]*Ibid.*, p. 609.

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army as an officer did not commence until 1762.* The acceptance of a rank subordinate to that which he had previously held is explained by the fact that the commissions of provincial officers were rated lower than those of the lowest rank of regular British officers.

There is no record of how Hutchins acquired his knowledge of engineering, except in the experiences which have just been narrated. Nor is it possible to state upon what missions he was employed prior to the year 1760.

The earliest record of his travels in the western country is contained in "A journal of a march from Fort Pitt to Venango—and from thence to Presqu'Isle," which is presumed to have been kept by Hutchins himself. The march, probably in the detachment of troops led by Colonel Bouquet, was made from July 7 to July 17, 1760. This journal is the earliest account we have of the country traversed after it came into English hands. It is the only one of the Hutchins papers that has been printed.†

*Winthrop Sargent in his *The History of an Expedition against Fort Du Quesne in 1755* (Pennsylvania Historical Society, vol. v., p. 123, *note*), says, "It is believed that the famous geographer Thomas Hutchins, the historian of Bouquet's expedition, on this occasion received his first commission as ensign in the King's South Carolina Independent Company." The "occasion" referred to by Mr. Sargent is one recorded in *Historical Records of the Life Guards* (London, 1835), where at page 154, *note*, it appears that "Thomas Hitchins," formerly in the Life Guards, was, on December 25, 1746, given a commission as "Ensign in an Independent Company, South Carolina." There is no evidence, except the similarity of names, in support of Mr. Sargent's conjecture.

†*Pennsylvania Magazine of History*, vol. ii., pp. 149-153.

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In the year 1763, the Indians under Pontiac formed a general plan to capture simultaneously all the forts held by the English. Forts Le Boeuf, Venango, Presqu'Isle, La Bay, St. Joseph's, Miamis, Ouiatenon, Sandusky, and Michillimackinac immediately fell. Forts Pitt and Detroit were surrounded and placed in a very critical situation. At Fort Pitt there were only three hundred and thirty soldiers, tradesmen, and woodsmen, under the command of Captain Ecuyer. With this garrison, he held out gallantly until the arrival of reinforcements. In this resistance, Hutchins, who had been in the garrison almost continuously since 1759, took an important part. On March 19, 1763, he left the fort on a mission that had been ordered by Colonel Bouquet.* He returned on May 29, bringing with him six much needed recruits. From June 4 to October 17, there is mention of his having been on guard, serving on courts martial, and performing important services at the fort. Pent up in the enclosure, and constantly employed in repairing the ravages of a destructive flood, the garrison was very much overworked. Of Hutchins in this connection, Captain Ecuyer writes to Colonel Bouquet on June 16, 1763, "No one has offered to help me but Mr. Trent, to whom I am much obliged, as well as to Mr. Hutchins, who has taken no rest. He oversaw the works and did

*For this and following references, see Darlington (Mary Carson), *Fort Pitt and Letters from the Frontier* (Pittsburg, 1892). The data are taken from the manuscript *Bouquet Papers* in the British Museum.

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his duty, at the same time, that is praiseworthy and he merits recompense."

For the relief of the beleaguered garrison, Colonel Bouquet and his army were detached from Carlisle, and after the decisive battle at Bushy Run, August 5 and 6, arrived at Fort Pitt on August 9. Hutchins was not in this engagement, since, on August 4, he sat as a member of a court martial at Fort Pitt. His survey of the battleground was made at a later date, and the situation of the troops indicated from information furnished him. On October 17, 1763, Colonel Bouquet despatched from Fort Pitt to Fort Ligonier a detachment under Captain Stewart. In the orders for this march appears, "Ensign Hutchins is to do adjutant's duty, and all orders received from him are to be obeyed." Of Hutchins's services on this expedition, Captain Ecuyer writes, "I must not neglect to recommend to you Mr. Hutchins as a worthy officer. He has given himself all imaginable trouble and has been of great use to Captain Stewart and the detachment. His diligence and good will merits more than I can tell you."

At Fort Pitt, Hutchins laid out the plans for new fortifications and later executed them under the direction of Colonel Bouquet. The redoubt built at this time is still standing, the only relic of British activity in Pittsburg. Hutchins's plan of Fort Pitt and the surrounding country is preserved in the library of the Pennsylvania Historical Society. In 1764, Colonel Bouquet set out with his

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army for the total reduction of the western Indians. Hutchins accompanied him on this expedition as assistant engineer. They left Fort Pitt on October 3, arriving at the forks of the Muskingum on November 18. Here conferences were held with the Indians, resulting satisfactorily for the British contention. The expedition then retraced its steps to Fort Pitt, where it arrived on November 28.

An account of this expedition, with an introductory account of the campaign of 1763, was published anonymously in Philadelphia in 1765, and Hutchins's maps which he had drawn upon the ground, marking the route and camping-places, formed part of the work.* Rich. Allibone, and others state that Hutchins was the author of the text of this volume; but a manuscript letter in the Force collection in the Library of Congress seems to prove that Dr. William Smith prepared it from notes furnished him by General Bouquet. Nevertheless, there is contemporary evidence that Hutchins, during his lifetime, was known as the author of this work; for in his obituary notice published in the *New York Daily Gazette*, Wednesday, May 20, 1789, is mentioned his connection with "General Boucquett, an account of whose transactions and campaigns was drawn up and published by him in this city, about the year 1758 [*sic*]." A discussion of the authorship of this work is contained in an article by Col. Charles Whittlesey on the "Origin of the American system of land sur-

*For editions of this work, see "List of Works," *post*.

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veys. Justice to the memory of Thomas Hutchins.** He takes the ground that Smith, not being on the expedition, was merely the editor; that Bouquet could not have written the account since in many parts it would have been self-laudatory; and that Hutchins, having made the maps, was the officer who naturally would write the notes accompanying them. He therefore claims that the credit for the information contained in the work is due to Hutchins.

A letter in the *Bouquet Papers*, British Museum, copied in the *Canadian Archives*, Series A, vol. xxi., p. 296, throws some light on Hutchins's connection with this book. From Fort Loudoun, on April 16, 1765, he writes to Colonel Bouquet that he set out from Fort Pitt on March 29, arriving at Fort Loudoun on April 13; that he has "measured the Road very exact following its windings;" and that he is busily engaged in drawing plans of the road and of the "Field of Battle" (Bushy Run), which he will forward in a few days. "Your very friendly & generous Proposal," he says, "is too much and you'll please allow me to assure you that if any profits arises from the sale of the Plan, it must go to defray the expense that may attend it. A Work set on foot purposely for my credit and advantage leaves me no room to Hesitate." It thus appears that the plans illustrating the campaign of 1763, were made by Hutchins, at

*Association of the Engineering Societies, *Journal*, vol. iii., pp. 275-280.

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Bouquet's orders, in April, 1765, while on a special expedition from Fort Pitt for that purpose.

In the year 1766, Hutchins was sent in company with Capt. Henry Gordon, chief engineer in the Western Department of North America, and George Croghan, Deputy Indian agent, on an expedition down the Ohio River. This trip was an official investigation of the territory acquired by the treaty of Paris, 1763, by which Great Britain gained all the territory of France east of the Mississippi River, except the tract in which New Orleans lies.

"I proceeded to Philadelphia with Ensign Hutchins, assistant engineer," on the 13th of May, 1766, says Captain Gordon. They left Philadelphia on the 23rd, reaching Pittsburg on June 14, where they were joined by Mr. Croghan. After engaging the necessary boats and battoemen they embarked on June 18, on the Ohio River. At the present site of Louisville, Kentucky, Hutchins drew "on the spot," July 19-23, a plan of the rapids at that point.* At the mouth of the Ohio, August 7, they were joined by a detachment of troops from Fort Chartres, with whom they ascended the Mississippi River to that fort near the St. Louis of today. They remained in this neighborhood, repairing the fort and making reconnaissances, from August 20 until September 18, when they commenced the trip down the Mississippi. They had reached

* *Topographical Description of Virginia*, p. [10], note.

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the Ibberville River on October 10,* and New Orleans on October 14. Thence they proceeded through Lake Pontchartrain to the sea, and coastwise to Pensacola, Florida. Here they embarked on November 12 for Havana, Cuba, arriving on the 17th, to join the troops stationed there. Gordon kept a journal of this trip, from which we learn of Hutchins's movements.† Hutchins left no journal but his *Topographical Description of Virginia*, and his *Louisiana and West Florida* consist to some extent of observations made on this expedition.

The next record of Hutchins finds him "At a conference held at Fort Pitt, on Tuesday the twenty-sixth day of April, 1768, with the chiefs and principal warriors of the Six Nations, Delawares, Shawanese, Munsies and Mohicons, residing on the waters of the Ohio."‡ "Ensign Hutchins" is mentioned among the officers present.

From November, 1768, to October, 1770, Hutchins's base of operations was Fort Chartres in the Illinois country. On November 15, 1768, he wrote General Haldimand, announcing his arrival at Fort Chartres, and enclosing a *Journal from Fort Pitt to the Mouth of the Ohio. In the year 1768.*‡‡

*Hutchins, *Historical Narrative and Topographical Description of Louisiana*, p. 61.

†For Gordon's *Journal*, see "List of Works," *post*, and Pownall (Thomas), *A Topographical Description of North America*, Appendix iv., pp. 2-5. Gordon's MS. map of the Ohio River is in the Map Division, Library of Congress. It is reproduced in Hulbert (A. B.), *Historic Highways of America*, vol. ix., between pp. 48-49.

‡Rupp (I. D.), *Early History of Western Pennsylvania*, Appendix xix., p. 181; also *The Olden Time*, vol. i., p. 344.

‡‡Indiana Historical Society, *Publications*, vol. ii., pp. 417-421.

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In this year also he drew *A sketch of the Ouabache &c. from Post Vincet to the Ohio*, which is preserved in the British Museum.* From September, 1769, to September, 1770, he compiled his *Hemrakes on the Country of the Illinois*. September 24, to October 20, 1770, he sat as a member of a court of inquiry at Fort Chartres to settle certain matters of "personal abuse," complained of by one Richard Bacon against George Morgan.† Patrick Kennedy, a witness before this court, was the writer of the *Journal up the Illinois River*, in 1773, reprinted in this volume.

The army-list for 1772 shows that Hutchins was made a lieutenant in his regiment on August 7, 1771. November 28 of the same year he was at Philadelphia, from which place he addressed a letter to "Robert Lettue Hooper Esq." concerning the publication of his map of the western country which was already in preparation. His scientific ability had undoubtedly by this time brought him to the favorable notice of the learned men of his day. The American Philosophical Society at Philadelphia was already the rendezvous of many such men. To this society was presented at a meeting on December 20, 1771, Hutchins's *An Account of the Country of the Illinois* which he had communicated in a letter to Mr. Ewing.‡

Early in 1772, at General Haldimand's request,

*Reproduced in Hulbert (A. B.), *Historic Highways of America* vol. viii., p. 35.

†Chicago Historical Society, *Collections*, vol. iv., pp. 420-485.

‡*Early Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*.

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Hutchins was transferred to the southern department. Until the year 1777, he was prominently identified with all the important engineering works in West Florida.* On March 16, 1772, he was at Pensacola, where he was engaged in the construction of military barracks.† During this year, also, he visited the Chandeleur Islands on the coast of Louisiana.‡ His absence from Philadelphia did not prevent the election to membership in the American Philosophical Society of "Lieut. Thomas Hutchins of the 60th. Regiment." This event took place on April 17, 1772;‡‡ and on July 18, 1773, he donated to the society *A draught of Chester & Middle rivers in W. Florida.*‡‡‡

Hutchins's extensive travels in the South, recorded in his published work, in his *Remarks on the River Amit*, and *Remarks relating to the Rivers Mississippi, Iberville, Amit & Lakes Maurepas & Poutchatrain*, had evidently impressed him with the wisdom of acquiring lands in that region. Accordingly we find him taking steps to this end by sending a party to survey a tract of land for him. This expedition is recorded in a *Journal of a Surveying Party in Employment of Capt: Johnson, Thos: Hutchins, Alex. Macullough and Hall*

*See Brymner's *Report on Canadian Archives*,—copies of Bouquet and Haldimand Papers.

†Illinois State Historical Library, *Collections*, vol. i., p. 291: Haldimand to Gage.

‡Hutchins, *Historical Narrative and Topographical Description of Louisiana*, p. 59.

‡‡*Early Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society.*

‡‡‡*Ibid.*

George

George

George the Third, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc. etc. Trusty and Wellbelov'd Cousins, Merchants, Gents.

We reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, Courage and good Conduct, as by these Presents constitute and appoint you to be Captain Lieutenant, in that Company in the second Battalion, of the King's Regiment of Foot, commanded by His Majesty's Lieutenant General the Viscount Amherst, to fight the Battle of Mowbray, and that you should be in the said Battalion, in the said Company, which is now Captain's Company, you shall therefore carefully and diligently discharge the Duty of Captain Lieutenant, by exercising and well disciplining, as well the inferior Officers, as Soldiers of that Company, and that we hereby command them to obey you as their Captain Lieutenant, and you to obey and follow such Orders and Directions from time to time, as you shall receive from us, your Colonel, or any other your superior Officer, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, in pursuance of the Trust hereby reposed in you. Yet we at Our Court at St. James's, the Twenty fourth Day of September, do give in the Tenth year of Our Reign

Entered into the
 Exchange all Way
 Yours

Ordered with the
 Petty Cash of the Treasury
 George Wolfe

By his Majesty's Command
 Geo. Gervais

George Wolfe, Esq. Capt. Lieut. in the 2nd Regt of the 70th Foot, America, Nov. 1, 1784

HUTCHINS'S COMMISSION AS CAPTAIN LIEUTENANT

[From the Original in the Library of the Pennsylvania Historical Society.]

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Bay, Esq. 26th. July to 17th. Sept. 1774. From this journal we learn that Hutchins came upon the surveying party on September 7, 1774, having in his charge a party of prisoners on his way from "Manshac," and took passage upon a schooner belonging to the expedition. Tracts were surveyed upon the rivers Amite and Comite, Hutchins's tract on the Comite including two thousand acres.*

The army-list for 1776 gives Hutchins as "Captaint-lieutenant and Capt.," and the date of his commission, September 21, 1775. Later editions of the list say September 24. Hutchins was then in the second battalion of the 60th or Royal American regiment. His parchment commission bearing the royal seal and addressed "To Our Trusty and Wel-beloved Thomas Hutchins Esq^r," with the date September 24, 1775, is preserved in the library of the Pennsylvania Historical Society.

In 1775, he was at Pensacola, Florida. In his *Louisiana and West-Florida*† he says, "The town of Pensacola is of an oblong form, and lies almost parallel to the beach. . . . The present fort was built by the writer of this narrative in 1775." His frankness in speaking of his own work is illustrated as he continues. The fort "can be of no great service towards the defence of the place, in case an attack be made on it, either by the natives or a civilized enemy."

On November 13, 1776, Hutchins was promoted

*Concerning Hutchins's land, see *American State Papers. Public lands*, vol. i., pp. 602, 882, 885.

†Page 77.

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to a captaincy.* The army-list for 1777 shows him to have been transferred from the second to the fourth battalion of the 60th regiment, in which battalion he remained until his connection with the army was severed. His name appears for the last time in the army-list for 1782, when he was third in rank of the captains of his battalion. His connection with the army, however, had ceased on February 11, 1780, when he resigned;† and his name must have remained in the list due to the confusion of the Revolution.

Hutchins was in London on May 8, 1777, where, as acting engineer, he submitted "An Estimate of the Expence it will take to finish compleatly, as well the Works already begun, as those originally intended to be made at Pensacola, by Order of the Commander in Chief of North America." In the next year, November 1, 1778, he published in London his *A new Map of the Western parts of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland and North Carolina*, with the accompanying *Topographical Description*.‡ In this work‡‡ he states that he has personally surveyed the whole territory west of the Alleghany Mountains, and upon the rivers Ohio and Mississippi, "during all the campaigns of the last war, in several of which I acted as an engineer, and since in many reconnoitring tours, which I

*Hinsdale in his *The Old North-West*, p. 262, erroneously states that Hutchins was a Captain when he was with Bouquet in 1764.

†See *post*, p. 24.

‡For editions of this work, see "List of Works," *post*.

‡‡Page i.

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made through various parts of the country, between the years 1764 and 1775."

The outbreak of the war between Great Britain and the United Colonies while he was in London brought upon Hutchins the crisis of his life. He had risen to a post of honor in the British army solely through merit. He had hitherto exerted himself in a cause with which he sympathized. Now he was called upon either to relinquish the fruits of his life's endeavors, or to accept honors for fighting against the country of his birth. In this exigency he sacrificed himself unfalteringly at the patriotic shrine. The persecutions to which he was subjected and the fortitude with which he bore them are related in the memorial which he presented to Benjamin Franklin, taking up the narrative in August, 1779:

*To his Excellency, Benjamin Franklin, minister plenipotentiary from the United States of America, at the Court of France;

The memorial of Thomas Hutchins, a native of New Jersey, in America, and late a captain and engineer in the British King's service, humbly sheweth,

That your Excellency's memorialist was, in the month of August last, taken into custody by virtue of a warrant from Sir John Fielding, of the city of London, in which your memorialist was charged with high treason, for having conveyed information to, and corresponded with, the friends of the United States of America in France. That your memorialist was committed to and kept in Clerkenwell prison, upwards of seven weeks, loaded with irons, put among felons, and treated with every kind of severity and insult, and forbidden to see or write to his friends.

That, after several long examinations at the Board of Trade, the British ministers thought proper to discharge him from prison; and being reduced to great distress by his pay both as captain and engineer being stopped, and being also refused payment of an account which the British government owed him (to the amount of eight hundred and

**The Works of Benjamin Franklin*, edited by Jared Sparks, vol. viii., pp. 436-438.

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sixty-nine pounds, nineteen shillings sterling), he was obliged to take lodgings in a garret, within the verge of the court. Your memorialist was offered two thousand guineas for his captain's commission; but, although he had frequently petitioned to sell it from the beginning of the war between the United States and Great Britain, he was as often refused; and, about three weeks before he was committed to prison, he was offered a majority in one of the new regiments then raising, which he would not accept, as he would not bear arms against his countrymen. Therefore, on the 11th of this month, (February,) finding himself treated with contempt by the British officers, and despairing of obtaining liberty to sell his commission, he sent his resignation to Lord Amherst, both as captain and engineer, and in a private manner withdrew from Great Britain and came into France entirely destitute of money; choosing rather to abandon his commission (though the whole of his fortune) and incur a loss of two thousand nine hundred and sixty-nine pounds, nineteen shillings sterling, (exclusive of his appointment as engineer), than continue in a service altogether irksome and painful to him. Your memorialist begs leave further to represent, that he has served with reputation as a British officer more than twenty-two years, (eighteen whereof he was constantly employed as an engineer,) and that he is most anxiously solicitous of entering into the army of the United States. For these considerations, your memorialist humbly hopes that your Excellency will be pleased to recommend his request, sufferings, and losses to the honorable Congress of the United States, and your memorialist as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

THOMAS HUTCHINS.

Franklin's opinion of him is shown by the letter in which he introduces Hutchins to the President of Congress:

PASSY, 16 March, 1780.

SIR;

The bearer of this, Captain Hutchins, a native of New Jersey, but many years in the English service, has lately escaped from England, where he suffered considerably for his attachment to the American cause. He is esteemed a good officer and an excellent engineer, and is desirous of being serviceable to his country. I enclose his memorial to me, a great part of which is consistent with my knowledge; and I beg leave to recommend him to the favorable notice of Congress, when any affair occurs in which his talents may be useful. I have the honor to be, &c.

B. FRANKLIN.

The friendly relation existing between Hutchins and Franklin is further shown by the language

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used by Hutchins in his *Topographical Description*,* where he says, "I am obliged to a worthy Friend, and Countryman, for the following just, and judicious observations. They were addressed to the Earl of Hillsborough, in the year 1770.—When Secretary of State for the North-American department." The "worthy Friend" referred to is Benjamin Franklin, and the quotation is taken from the *Observations and Remarks* made by Franklin in pamphlet form and appended to the *Report of the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations on the petition of the Honourable Thomas Walpole, Benjamin Franklin, John Sargent, and Samuel Wharton, Esquires, and their Associates; for A Grant of Lands on the River Ohio, in North America; for the purpose of Erecting a new Government.* (London, J. Almon, MDCCLXXII). The portions quoted by Hutchins are found on pages 66–68 of this pamphlet.† The Earl of Hillsborough, who

*Page [15], *note*.

†Although, as Hutchins states, the observations of Franklin were addressed to Hillsborough in 1770, they were not issued in pamphlet form until 1772. That Hutchins's quotation is from the 1772 pamphlet is shown by the insertion in the quotation of the date, 1772. (See *Topographical Description*, page [16].) The quotation is not verbatim, and that part commencing with "It may not, perhaps, be amiss, to observe," and extending to the end, must have been added from personal correspondence with Franklin. Due to the influence of this protest, submitted in 1770, action was taken contrary to Hillsborough's recommendation, whereupon he resigned. Franklin's pamphlet was just issuing from the press, when he learned of the above event. He immediately discontinued sale of the pamphlet when only five copies had been sold. One of these copies is in the Library of Congress. It is reprinted in Almon (John), *Biographical, Literary, and Political Pamphlets* (London, 1797); and in Sparks's edition of the works of Franklin. The same quotation, evidently copied from Hutchins, appears in Filson (John), *The Discovery, Settlement and Present State of Kentucky* (London, 1793), pp. 17-18.

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wrote this report on the famous "Walpole Grant," was bitterly opposed to the scheme and to its advocates. Possibly, for this reason, Hutchins, at that time a British officer, refrained from using Franklin's name. But the quotation was easily recognizable, and undoubtedly helped to direct suspicion toward him, and to intensify the antagonism that had been aroused.

Hutchins was still in France in August, 1780. This appears from the fact that in that month he attested the correctness of copies of nineteen letters at L'Orient.* He doubtless was employed by Franklin up to this time in the service of the United States, and was in a position to supply most valuable information. "He then sailed from l'Orient to Charleston, where he joined the southern army under general Green," says the *New York Daily Gazette*.† Green took command of the southern department, succeeding Gates, on December 3, 1780, so that it must have been about this time that Hutchins reached Charleston. Whether he was connected with the American army prior to presenting his letter of introduction to Congress, or on what date this event took place does not appear; but on May 4, 1781, Congress "*Resolved*, That Thomas Hutchins be appointed geographer to the southern army, with the same pay and emoluments as are allowed to the geog-

*Lincoln (C. H.), *A Calendar of John Paul Jones Manuscripts in the Library of Congress*.

†Vol. i., p. 490, Wednesday, May 20, 1789.

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rapher of the main army.”* On July 11, 1781, “A letter of this day from Thomas Hutchins was read, signifying his acceptance of the office of geographer to the southern army,” and it was “*Resolved*, That the geographer to the main army, and also the geographer to the southern army, be stiled ‘geographer to the United States of America,’ and commissioned and considered as such.”† The letter of acceptance referred to was written in Philadelphia. In this letter, Hutchins said that he had hoped his title might read “Geographer to the United States,” instead of “to the southern army.” His suggestion was therefore immediately acted upon. And upon July 19, writing at Philadelphia, he signs himself “Geographer United States.”

The emoluments of this office were exceedingly modest. The pay for the geographer to the main army, and for the geographer to the southern army were identical. The resolve of Congress of November 12, 1782, determined “That the geographer to the main army, and the geographer to the southern department, be each of them allowed sixty dollars per month, three rations per day, forage for two saddle horses, one two horse covered wagon, six dollars and two thirds of a dollar per month for a servant, for whom they shall be entitled to draw one ration per day, and the clothing allowed to a private soldier.”‡

**Journals of Congress*, vol. vii., p. 94.

†*Ibid.*, pp. 145-146.

‡*Id.*, vol. viii., p. 10.

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No more meritorious appointment than this has ever been made in the annals of American history. It did not err on the side of generosity, was a reward for unexcelled patriotism, and placed in a position which was to become of the first importance, a man whose scientific ability was unquestioned. Hutchins is not the only person who bore the title "Geographer to the United States;" for from December, 1780, to November, 1783, Simeon De Witt was geographer to the main army, and his title was changed with that of Hutchins. But De Witt became surveyor-general of New York in 1784, leaving Hutchins to support the title. Congress thereafter refers to Hutchins as *the* geographer; and in its resolve of June 10, 1785,* on the method of settling Hutchins's accounts, it changes his salary from "four dollars and four rations a day" to "four dollars a day" commencing on November 3, 1783, showing that the military element was considered as having been eliminated at that time.†

Of Hutchins's official acts as geographer prior to the year 1783, practically no record remains. The field of his labors was wide, and not confined to the perfunctory performance of duty. His early travels in Pennsylvania, which had now become the main thoroughfare to the western country, had to some extent identified him with that state. He

**Journals of Congress*, vol. x., p. 208.

†Justin Winsor in his *Westward Movement*, p. 266, erroneously states that "Congress had in connection with the Ordinance of May 20, 1785, created the office of Geographer of the United States."

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bore a considerable part in the competition between Virginia and Pennsylvania for the best highway to the West. His maps, drawn while on the Bouquet expedition, definitely marked one military route. He was now called upon in time of peace to continue the work in which he had been engaged under the stress of war.

In 1783, the General Assembly of Pennsylvania took up the question of improving communications within the state. On September 15, 1783,* a resolve was passed, "First,—To view the different roads leading from Susquehanna to Reading and Philadelphia, and point out the most practical mode of improving and repairing the same, and to consider the most probable way of opening a communication between the rivers Susquehanna and Schuylkill; Second,—To receive the proposals of such person or persons as may offer lands to the public for the purpose of building a town or towns on the east bank of the Susquehanna; Third,—To examine the Susquehanna; and, Fourth,—To view the Delaware River." September 20, the Assembly elected by ballot "for performing the duties mentioned in the first and second of the aforesaid resolutions," David Rittenhouse, Thomas Hutchins, and Nathan Sellers.† For their labors the commissioners jointly received the sum of "ninety-five pounds, one shilling and one penny specie."‡

**Pennsylvania Archives*, vol. x., pp. 128-129.

†*Ibid.*, pp. 129-130.

‡*Minutes* of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, vol. xiii., p. 442.

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This important work, containing eminent possibilities for American development, was doubtless prosecuted in such time as the duties of Hutchins's office would allow. Meanwhile, Congress had entered upon the perplexing question of fixing upon a city or cities in which to erect buildings for the use of Congress. A situation near the falls of the Delaware being urged, it was resolved,* on October 7, 1783, "That a committee of five be appointed to repair to the falls of Delaware, to view the situation of the country in its neighborhood, and report a proper district" for erecting buildings. Hutchins, in his capacity of geographer, was directed by this commission to make a survey of the proposed site. In a letter dated Annapolis, December 26, 1783, referring to their commands, he submits to the "Hon.^{ble} Commissioners for viewing the ground near to Trenton for a Federal town," a survey of the "ground above and below the Falls of Delaware."

On April 16, 1784, Hutchins was in Philadelphia, where he presented to Congress forty pamphlets that he had collected. His presence there is probably accounted for by the publication of his book entitled, *An Historical, Narrative and Topographical Description of Louisiana and West-Florida*.† In the preface to this work he says, "Several years residence in the Province of West-Florida, during which I entered into a minute examination of its coasts, harbours, lakes, and rivers,

* *Journals of Congress*, vol. viii., p. 424.

† See "List of Works," *post*.

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having made me perfectly acquainted with their situation, bearings, soundings, and every particular requisite to be known by Navigators, for their benefit I am induced to make my observations public." This declaration is sustained by the immense amount of information contained in the book. It succinctly states the history of the territory, narrates its possibilities, and gives directions for its commercial conquest. Hutchins points out very clearly the importance of controlling the navigation of the Mississippi. "Is it not amazing," says he, "true as it is, that few amongst us know this to be the key to the northern part of the western continent? It is the only channel through which that extensive region, bathed by its waters, and enriched by the many streams it receives, communicates with the sea."⁴

Recognition of Hutchins's scientific ability had come on September 11, 1783, in his appointment as one of the commissioners to run the western end of the boundary line between Virginia and Pennsylvania.[†] This was the completion of the historic Mason and Dixon's line. The great difficulty was to fix, by astronomical determinations, its western end. To do this, some of the most brilliant scientists of the time were employed. On the part of Virginia they were the Right Reverend James Madison, Bishop of Virginia; Reverend Robert Andrews, John Page, and Andrew Ellicott of Mary-

*Page 23.

†*Minutes* of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, vol. xiii

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land. On the part of Pennsylvania they were the Reverend John Ewing, Provost of the University of Philadelphia; David Rittenhouse, Treasurer of the state; John Lukens, Surveyor-General of the state; and Thomas Hutchins. "An anxious Desire," they say, "to gratify the astronomical World in the performance of a problem which has never yet been attempted in any country, by a Precision and Accuracy that would do no Dishonor to our Characters, while it prevents the State of Pennsylvania from the Chance of Losing many hundred Thousands of Acres, secured to it by our agreement of Baltimore, has induced us to suffer our Names to be mentioned in the accomplishment of the Work."^{*}

The undertaking was not commenced until 1784. On May 29 of that year an advance of £100 each was made to Ewing and Hutchins by the Pennsylvania Council, preparatory to their leaving Philadelphia.[†] Hutchins and Ewing set out for the southwestern corner of Pennsylvania to make astronomical observations, arriving there after much difficulty about the middle of July. They concluded their observations on September 20. Meanwhile, Rittenhouse and Lukens had completed a like task at Wilmington. The commissioners then came together, compared observations, and jointly ran the southern boundary of Pennsylvania. They finished it on November 18, 1784, at which date they were in Washington County, Pennsylvania,

^{*}*Pennsylvania Archives*, vol. x., p. 236.

[†]*Ibid.*, p. 269.

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where their report was written. They agreed to meet at the southwestern corner of Pennsylvania on May 16, 1785, to finish their task by running the western boundary line of Pennsylvania.*

Hutchins had reached Philadelphia by December 15, 1784, for Jacob Hiltzheimer in his diary under that date says, "Thos. Hutchins, just from the backwoods, who has been running the line between Virginia and Pennsylvania, drank tea with us."† He made his report to Congress on March 7, 1785, writing in New York. For his services in connection with this boundary line up to December 23, 1784, Hutchins received as compensation 365 pounds, 15 shillings.‡ In preparation for the continuation of this survey, Hutchins being accountable to Congress for his time, writes from New York on April 21, 1785, informing Congress through its President, Richard Henry Lee, that the executive of Pennsylvania has asked him to run a boundary line "from the termination of the southern boundary of Pennsylvania as far as the River Ohio, which is to be the line of Division between the citizens of Pennsylvania and those of Virginia," and asks permission to accept. President Dickinson had written Hutchins on April 9, 1785,‡‡ and Congress on April 11,‡‡‡ concerning the

**Pennsylvania Archives*, vol. x., pp. 373-378.

†*Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, vol. xvi., p. 169.

‡*Minutes of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania*, Oct. 20, 1784, and Jan. 17, 1785.

‡‡*Pennsylvania Archives*, vol. x., p. 438.

‡‡‡*Ibid.*, p. 440.

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resumption of the work. Here, however, Hutchins's connection with this survey seems to have ceased. Ewing had resigned on March 26, 1785. Instructions for the survey of July 29, 1785,* do not name Hutchins as a commissioner, and the reports of the commissioners of August 23, 1785,† when they had reached the Ohio, and of October 4, 1786,‡ when the line was completed, are not signed by Hutchins. He was evidently prevented from running this line by the events of the month of May, 1785, which marked out the work which was chiefly to occupy the remainder of his life. The events of this month were largely brought about by the Ohio Company of Associates organized for the settlement of the western territory.

In the year 1783, General Rufus Putnam became interested in a plan, proposed by Colonel Timothy Pickering, for creating a new state west of the Ohio River. In June of that year he forwarded to the President of Congress, through General Washington, who recommended it, a petition signed by two hundred and eighty-eight officers of the army asking that their bounty lands be located in the present state of Ohio, east of the Scioto River. Congress took no action on this petition. A cession to Congress of practically the whole western territory was made by the states holding claims upon it, an ordinance for its government

**Pennsylvania Archives*, vol. x., p. 489.

†*Ibid.*, p. 506.

‡*Id.*, vol. xi., p. 69.

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being drawn up by Thomas Jefferson and adopted by Congress on April 23, 1784. The Ordinance of May 20, 1785, provided a method of survey and sale of this land. Upon Hutchins, by virtue of his office of geographer, fell the duty of directing this work.

Hazard, writing to Belknap on June 13, 1789, relates the following anecdote concerning Hutchins's early connection with this survey. "The Ohio Company purchased their tract on condition of paying 500,000 dollars at the time of signing the contract, and the remaining 500,000 upon a *return of the survey* being made. The payments were to be made in certificates, which, you know, bear an interest of 6 per cent. Of course the Ohio Company drew an interest of 6 per cent on 500,000 dollars till the return of survey is made. Captain Hutchins attended to this, and intimated it to Congress, as a reason why he should be sent, without delay, to make that survey. I mention this as a proof of fidelity in office. He went to do the business, and died before it was accomplished."* Hutchins's survey paved the way for the sale of land to this company, which made the first purchase after the Indian titles had been extinguished. The contract had not been concluded until November 27, 1787, so that the commencement of Hutchins's survey was a prerequisite to the contract.

The land actually acquired was not included in the tract surveyed by Hutchins. It touched the

*Massachusetts Historical Society, *Collections*, ser. 5, vol. iii., p. 139.

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"seven ranges" only at their southwestern extremity; but if Hutchins had lived to complete the survey he would have covered this region.

Before completing the contract, Doctor Cutler, agent for the company, sought the advice of Hutchins. On July 7, 1787, writing from New York, where he was negotiating with Congress, Cutler says, "Paid my respects this morning to Dr. Holton, and several other gentlemen. Was introduced by Dr. Ewing and Mr. Rittenhouse to Mr. Hutchins, geographer to the United States. Consulted him where to make our location."* And on July 9, "Waited this morning very early on Mr. Hutchins. He gave me the fullest information on the western country, from Pennsylvania to the Illinois, and advised me, by all means, to make our location on the Muskingum, which was decidedly, in his opinion, the best part of the whole of the western country."† Hildreth‡ remarks concerning this advice, "Had the counsel of Mr. Hutchins been strictly followed, and the purchase selected from lands on the Muskingum above the mouth of Licking Creek, at the forks of the Muskingum, a country with which Mr. Hutchins was familiar having visited that region in 1764, as engineer for the army of General Bouquet, the selection would have been far superior to that at the mouth, and along the margin of the Ohio." Further than this, it is plain

**Life, Journals and Correspondence of Rev. Manasseh Cutler, LL. D.*, p. 230.

†*Ibid.*, pp. 236-238.

‡*Pioneer History*, pp. 209-210.

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that Hutchins was a man whose knowledge was valuable to the Ohio company from its inception; for Col. Timothy Pickering writing to Mr. Hodgdon, on April 14, 1783, says, "General Putnam is warmly engaged in the new-planned settlement on the Ohio. He is very desirous of getting Hutchins' map. Mr. Aitken had them to sell. If possible, pray, forward me one."*

Among the books intended to induce settlement in the Ohio country was one by Doctor Cutler, entitled, *An explanation of the map which delineates that part of the Federal Lands comprehended between Pennsylvania West Line, the rivers Ohio and Scioto, and Lake Erie*. Salem, 1787.† This book was not issued until Hutchins's approval had been obtained. It is printed on the second page of the book, bearing the date, "New York, 28th October, 1787." In this approval Hutchins states that he has resided "upwards of ten years" in the western country.

The parts of the famous ordinance of May 20, 1785, which are interesting for this sketch, are quoted below:

‡An ORDINANCE for ascertaining the mode of disposing of lands in the Western Territory.

BE it ordained by the United States in Congress assembled, That the territory ceded by individual states to the United States, which has been purchased of the Indian inhabitants, shall be disposed of in the following manner:—

**Life, Journals and Correspondence of Rev. Manasseh Cutler, LL. D.*, p. 149.

†A copy of the map referred to is in the Map Division, Library of Congress.

‡*Journals of Congress*, vol. x., p. 167.

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A survey of from each state shall be appointed by Congress or a Committee of the States, who shall take an oath for the faithful discharge of his duty, before the geographer of the United States, who is hereby empowered and directed to administer the same. . . .

The geographer, under whose direction the surveyors shall act, shall occasionally form such regulations for their conduct, as he shall deem necessary; and shall have authority to suspend them for misconduct in office, and shall make report of the same to Congress or to the Committee of the States; and he shall make report in case of sickness, death, or resignation of any surveyor.

The surveyors, as they are respectively qualified, shall proceed to divide the said territory into townships of six miles square, by lines running due north and south, and others crossing these at right angles, as near as may be, unless where the boundaries of the late Indian purchases may render the same impracticable, and then they shall depart, from this rule no farther than such particular circumstances may require. . . .

The first line running north and south as aforesaid, shall begin on the river Ohio, at a point that shall be found to be due north from the western termination of a line which has been run as the southern boundary of the state of Pennsylvania: and the first line running east and west, shall begin at the same point, and shall extend throughout the whole territory; provided that nothing herein shall be construed, as fixing the western boundary of the state of Pennsylvania. The geographer shall designate the townships or fractional parts of townships, by numbers progressively from south to north; always beginning each range with No. 1; and the ranges shall be distinguished by their progressive numbers to the westward. The first range extending from the Ohio to the lake Erie, being marked No. 1. The geographer shall personally attend to the running of the first east and west line; and shall take the latitude of the extremes of the first north and south line, and of the mouths of the principal rivers. . . . The plats of the townships respectively, shall be marked by sub-divisions into lots of one mile square, or 640 acres, in the same direction as the external lines, and numbered from 1 to 36; always beginning the succeeding range of the lots with the number next to that with which the preceding one concluded. . . . As soon as seven ranges of townships and fractional parts of townships, in the direction from south to north, shall have been surveyed, the geographer shall transmit plats thereof to the board of treasury, who shall record the same with the report in well bound books to be kept for that purpose. And the geographer shall make similar returns from time to time of every seven ranges as they may be surveyed. . . .

DONE by the United States in Congress assembled, the twentieth

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day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, and of our sovereignty and independence the ninth.*

RICHARD H. LEE, P.

CHARLES THOMSON, SEC'Y.

This ordinance has been quoted at length, first, because it is an official statement of the present land system of the United States, having been changed only in the method of marking; and, second, because it shows how intimately Hutchins was connected with this great event. He is given entire charge of the survey; and his influence is seen many times in the ordinance. The fixed point due north from which the survey was to commence, Hutchins had assisted in determining, in 1784, and being at the seat of government when the ordinance was framed, he doubtless was consulted concerning this detail. He is instructed personally to run the east and west line upon which the survey of the whole territory depended.

As to the origin of the system of surveying set forth in this ordinance there has been much discussion. The credit for inventing it has been variously given to Gen. W. H. Harrison,[†] Gen. Rufus Putnam,[‡] first surveyor-general, 1797-1803; Jared Mansfield,^{††} surveyor-general, 1803-1812, and Edward Tiffin,^{†††} surveyor-general, 1815-1825. Col-

*An ordinance supplementary to the above was passed on July 9, 1788, removing the element of "states rights" in connection with the western lands. *Journals of Congress*, vol. xiii., pp. 62-63.

[†]*Ohio Institute of Geologists and Mining Engineers*. Meeting in 1883. (Reference from Whittlesey.)

[‡]*Journal of the Association of Engineering Societies*, vol. ii., Nos. 9-10, pp. 282-287.

^{††}Donaldson (T.) *Public Domain*, p. 170.

^{†††}*Toledo Science Monthly*. (November, 1875.)

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onel Whittlesey gives the entire credit to Thomas Hutchins.* His argument hangs on the authorship of the *Historical Account of Bouquet's Expedition against the Ohio Indians, 1764*, which has already been considered.† The appendix to this work contains a scheme of colonization and military defense against the Indians which has the rudiments of the system adopted in the Ordinance of May 20, 1785. It contains the first announcement of an allotment in squares of a mile on each side. If Hutchins wrote this appendix, the evidence is strong, though not conclusive, that he was the inventor of the system. Unquestionably, he was the first person to put this system into practice, and he early pointed out to Congress some of its defects.‡ For applying and improving it he is entitled to the credit which has been tardily accorded him. There is evidence, however, that the idea of townships to be surveyed before opened for settlement originated in New England. "As early as June 17, 1732, the General Court of Massachusetts granted six miles square for a township to be laid out in a regular form by a surveyor and chairman under oath."‡‡ In the adoption of the Ordinance of May 20, 1785, the "New England idea" triumphed over the "Virginia idea" of indiscriminate settlement favored by Washington.

**Journal of the Association of Engineering Societies*, vol. iii., No. 11, pp. 275-280.

†See *ante*, p. 15, 16.

‡See *post*, p. 42.

‡‡*Ohio Archaeological and Historical Quarterly*, vol. iii., p. 110.

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Continuing the necessary preliminaries to the survey, on May 27, 1785, Congress "*Resolved*, That the geographer of the United States be continued in office for a term not exceeding three years; and that he be allowed during his continuance in office, six dollars per day, for his services and expenses."^{*} On the same day the surveyors from the various states were elected. On June 9, the sum of seven hundred dollars was ordered advanced to Hutchins to apply on his salary, and the sum of six thousand dollars to be used by him in the prosecution of the survey.[†] On June 10 it was "*Resolved*, That in settling the accounts of Mr. Thomas Hutchins, geographer to the United States, he be allowed four dollars and four rations a day, from the time of his accepting his commission, to the 3d day of November, 1783, and that he be allowed four dollars a day from that period to the 27th day of May, 1785, deducting therefrom the time he was employed and paid by the state of Pennsylvania."[‡] And on June 30, Hutchins was empowered "to employ three or four Indians to accompany him" in the prosecution of the survey.^{‡‡}

Hutchins lost no time in setting about his appointed work. On September 15, 1785, he writes to the President of Congress that he reached Pittsburg on September 3, and there met the surveyors from Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Mary-

^{*}*Journals of Congress*, vol. x., p. 185.

[†]*Ibid.*, pp. 207-208.

[‡]*Ibid.*, p. 208.

^{‡‡}*Ibid.*, p. 221.

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land, and Virginia. He states that his departure to the westward from Pittsburg had been delayed by the uncertain state of the Indians who seemed likely to disregard the treaties that had been signed. In the postscript to this letter, he points out a defect in the Ordinance of 1785. He says:

By the Ordinance of Congress I am commanded to lay off each Township six miles square, by Lines running due North & South, and others crossing these at right angles as near as may be; Permit me to observe that as we approach the Pole the meridians have a gradual inclination towards each other until they terminate in a Point, therefore six miles square cannot be comprehended within the Meridians, and it will be impossible for each Township to contain 23,040 acres as intended by Congress without adding in Latitude what may be wanting in Longitude.

Although the assurances from the Indian chiefs were unsatisfactory, he set out from Pittsburg on September 22, but was obliged to return on October 23, having been advised by the Indians not to attempt the survey. He left Pittsburg on November 1 and was in New York by November 24, 1785.

While he was in New York, the following action of Congress was taken: "Friday December 2, 1785. Pursuant to the resolution of the 29th September last, Congress proceeded to the appointment of three commissioners for running a line of jurisdiction between the states of Massachusetts and New-York, conformable to the laws of the said states; and the ballots being taken, Mr. Thomas Hutchins, Mr. John Ewing, and Mr. David Rittenhouse, were elected and appointed."* Hutchins accepted this appointment in a letter written at

**Journals of Congress*, vol. xi., p. 10.

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New York, December 12, 1785; but the line was not run until the year 1787 during a respite from his work on the Ohio survey.*

On December 27, 1785, he submitted to Congress, "A brief account of the soil and timber in that part of the Western Territory through which an east and West line has been surveyed—agreeable to an ordinance of Congress of the 20th. of May, 1785. Beginning on the North bank of the Ohio River at a point due North from the Western termination of a line which has been run as the southern boundary of the state of Pennsylvania." The plan accompanying this account "was copied from the original by Mr. Wm. Morris, surveyor appt. by Congress from New York." From the above it may be observed how far the survey had been pushed in the one month during which Hutchins had been at work.

During the months January to May, 1786, he was engaged in preparing for his second surveying expedition. On January 28, however, he read before the American Philosophical Society at Philadelphia his *Description of a remarkable rock and Cascade, near the western side of the Youghiogeny River, a quarter of a mile from Craeford's ferry, and about twelve miles from Union-Town, in Fayette county, in the state of Pennsylvania.*†

The time for Hutchins's return to the Ohio

*See *post*, p. 46.

†*Early Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*; and *Transactions of the American Philosophical Society*, vol. ii., p. 50. See also "List of Works," *post*.

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country coming on, Congress on May 9, 1786, instructed him and his surveyors to continue the survey, "provided that they do not proceed further northerly than the east and west line mentioned" in the Ordinance of 1785.* This northern limitation was made on account of the unsettled position of the forty-first parallel. On May 22, Hutchins writes Congress that he will set out for the western territory on May 23. He arrived in Pittsburg on July 25, and sent for Indian chiefs to accompany him on the survey. His expectation was to commence operations on July 12. Letters were received from him in July, August, September, October, and December from various camps within the seven ranges. During part of this time a military escort was necessary for protection from the Indians. On December 2, 1786, he writes from "Ohio county, Va.," that four ranges and forty-two miles of the west side of the fifth range had been completed. Also that the first and second ranges had been surveyed into townships by Captain Martin, and the third and fourth ranges by General Tupper, Colonel Sproat, Colonel Sherman, and Mr. Simpson. In "Ohio county, Va.," the surveyors remained until February, 1787, putting on paper the results of the survey. Hutchins left the western territory on February 1, arriving in New York on February 21. He wrote the next day to inform Congress of that fact.

While absent on the survey, Hutchins must have received the following letter from George

**Journals of Congress*, vol. xi., p. 55.

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Washington, which shows in unmistakable terms how highly Hutchins was esteemed:

MOUNT VERNON, 20 August, 1786.

SIR,

You will see by the letter from the Marquis de Lafayette to me, that the Empress of Russia is desirous of obtaining some authentic documents respecting the language of the natives of this country, for the purpose of compiling a Universal Dictionary. As I have thought no person was more in condition to accomplish that essential service for the republic of letters than yourself, I have taken the liberty of transmitting a specimen of the vocabulary to you, together with a request that you will do me the favor of paying as early and accurate attention to the completion of the matter as your avocations will admit. Persuaded that a gentleman of your taste for science in general, and particularly of your capacity of acquiring the information in question, will enter upon the task with pleasure, I make no apology for troubling you with it. Nor do I think it necessary to add any thing farther on the subject, than that it may be expedient to extend the vocabulary as far as, with the aid of your friends, you conveniently can; and that the greatest possible precision and exactitude will be indispensable in committing the Indian words to paper by a just orthography. With sentiments of esteem and regard, I have the honor to be, etc.*

Whether or not Hutchins furnished the information asked, I am unable to say; but Col. George Morgan, after Hutchins's death, writing from New York on September 1, 1789, says that in examining the papers of the late Mr. Hutchins, he has found the above letter, and wishes to furnish to Washington additional information in case Hutchins has not fully complied with the request.†

Hutchins's time seems to have been completely at the disposal of Congress, for on March 19, 1787, he writes asking permission to go to Philadelphia

**The Writings of George Washington*, edited by Jared Sparks, vol. ix., p. 195.

†Massachusetts Historical Society, *Collections*, ser. 3, vol. v., p. 286

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on private business. In the same month, March 23, 1787, Congress, due to the critical state of public finances, reduced the salary of many federal officers. According to this resolution,* Hutchins is thereafter to be paid "at the rate of fifteen hundred dollars for such time as he may be actually employed in the public service."

On April 18, 1787, he submitted to Congress the plats of the four ranges of the Ohio survey that he had completed. These plats, signed by the surveyors mentioned in Hutchins's letter of December 2, 1786,† and dated 1786, are preserved in the Drafting Division of the United States General Land Office.

Writing, on June 25, 1787, to the President of Congress, he says that Congress having been pleased to nominate him one of the commissioners for running a line between the states of Massachusetts and New York, he will start with Doctor Ewing and Mr. Rittenhouse on the 5th of next month (July) and be absent six weeks.‡ Leave of absence was granted him for this purpose. He was still in New York on July 7 and July 9, for Manasseh Cutler called on him in New York on those dates.‡‡ On September 24, 1787, he was back in New York, having returned from the work of the survey. He submitted his report to Congress on February 4, 1788.

The term of office for which he had been ap-

**Journals of Congress*, vol. xii., p. 34.

†See *ante*, p. 44.

‡See *ante*, p. 42-43.

‡‡See *ante*, p. 36.

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pointed in May, 1785, having expired, Congress, on May 26, 1788,* "agreeably to the order of the day, proceeded to the election of a geographer of the United States, whose commission shall continue for two years, unless sooner revoked, and the ballots being taken, Mr. Hutchins was elected; having been previously nominated by Mr. Williamson." Following the reduction in his salary and his re-election to office, the work of Hutchins's department increased rather than decreased; but he was given greater latitude in the appointment of subordinates. He is directed "to ascertain by himself, or by a deputy duly appointed for the purpose, the boundary line between the United States and the States of New-York and Massachusetts, agreeably to the deeds of cession of the said states."[†] He set about the preparation for executing this resolution by obtaining the needed sanction from Lord Dorchester, Governor of Canada.[‡] He is directed to make surveys for the sale of a tract of land to Mr. Morgan and his associates;[§] to survey the lands set aside for the satisfaction of Revolutionary bounty claims;[¶] and he is authorized "to appoint such surveyors as he shall think best qualified," "without any reference to former appointments."^{¶¶¶} In spite of these numerous be-

* *Journals of Congress*, vol. xiii., p. 30.

[†] *Ibid.*, p. 34.

[‡] *Pennsylvania Archives*, ser. 1, vol. xi., pp. 314-315.

[§] *Journals of Congress*, vol. xiii., p. 44.

[¶] *Ibid.*, pp. 62-63.

^{¶¶¶} *Ibid.*, p. 71.

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hests, he writes Congress on August 15, 1788, at New York, that he is about to set out for the western territory, "on Monday next," to continue the survey of the seven ranges. He had started by September 2, 1788.* Following his departure, Congress further directed him to survey "the three tracts of Gnaden-budden, Schoenbrun, and Salem, on the Muskingum,"† which had been reserved to the Moravian Indians by the Ordinance of May 20, 1785. The survey of these tracts was not accomplished until the year 1797, when it was done by "W^m. Rufus Putnam, Deputy Surveyor." The plats of the Salem and Schoenbrun tracts are preserved in the United States General Land Office.

Arriving at Pittsburg, he proceeded in company with the Rev. John Heckewelder to Marietta.‡ Here, however, Hutchins's work was cut short by an illness which is described as "a gradual failing of the nerves, and an almost insensible waste of the constitution." He returned to Pittsburg, where he died on April 28, 1789. Says the *Gazette of the United States*, May 27, 1789,‡‡ under date of Pittsburg, May 2, "He was in a country where he had been early known, and to which he had a particular attachment; in the house of his particular friend, John Ormsby.‡‡‡ He was daily visited during his indisposition by those of this

* Massachusetts Historical Society, *Collections*, ser. 5, vol. iii., p. 60.

† *Journals of Congress*, vol. xiii., p. 131.

‡ Rondthaler (Edward), *Life of John Heckewelder*, p. 108.

‡‡ Page 52.

‡‡‡ For notice of John Ormsby, see *The Olden Time*, vol. ii., pp. 1-5.

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place, and by gentlemen occasionally resident or passing through from different parts of the continent. His funeral was attended by a considerable concourse of people, and the service read at his obsequies by Mr. Heckenwelder, a Moravian clergyman, accidentally present, and who had long known the deceased. His merit is well known; a man greatly amiable; and integrity his predominant quality. . . .

"His map early laid the foundation of American geography, and his services since his appointment under the United States, have been universally acknowledged.

"He has measured much earth, but a small space now contains him."

For many years his remains lay in the churchyard of the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburg. His tombstone bore the inscription:

IN MEMORY OF

THOMAS HUTCHINS,

GEOGRAPHER OF THE UNITED STATES,

WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE APRIL 28TH., 1789.

The present resting-place of his ashes seems a question of doubt; four years ago the cemetery was vacated to make room for an addition to the church.

In surveying the events of Hutchins's life, one cannot fail to be impressed with the variety of his

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experiences. His activities were connected with important events in the history of America. The steel of his nature was well tempered to withstand the sudden and prolonged strains that were put upon it. A man of affairs, busy with practical things, he yet found time for scientific and literary performance. A man of principles which he maintained under the most trying circumstances, he gave unmistakable evidence of his patriotism. Having played an honorable part in rescuing the western wilderness from the Indians, having suffered from his love of American liberty, having fought for it in the army of Green, it still remained for him to perform an inestimable service in making this new-won land habitable for its owners. With his band of hardy surveyors he marked off the West in determinate areas, capping off his life's work while pursuing the arts of peace. Discovery, Conquest, Civilization. He became the associate of the foremost scientific men of the country. He held the esteem of Ewing, Rittenhouse, Ellicott, Franklin, and Washington. He assisted in performing undertakings which commanded the attention of the scientific world. His geographical works formed the basis for the famous *American Geography* of Jedidiah Morse, whose name was for half a century a household word. Yet with difficulty the name of Thomas Hutchins has been rescued from oblivion. An unassuming gentleman, always a quiet though powerful force, he did not seek the lime-light of publicity. Yet after more

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than a century has elapsed, as we investigate his life, examining him as a pioneer, soldier, patriot, surveyor, litterateur, and scientist, we find him to have been one of the great influences toward progress; a man who justly is entitled to a place among the great American civilizers.

FREDERICK CHARLES HICKS.

Washington, D. C., July, 1904.

A LIST OF THE WORKS OF THOMAS HUTCHINS,
INCLUDING NOTES ON THE MAP
AND BOOK REPRINTED

BY

FREDERICK CHARLES HICKS

A LIST OF THE WORKS OF THOMAS HUTCHINS, INCLUDING NOTES ON THE MAP AND BOOK REPRINTED

THE map at the end of this volume is reproduced in almost its original size, which is $35\frac{1}{4} \times 42\frac{3}{4}$ inches. A reduced copy, $19\frac{1}{4} \times 24\frac{3}{4}$ inches, was published in Paris, in 1781, by Le Rouge in connection with the French edition of the *Topographical Description*. This reduced copy has the following title:

Partie occidentale | de la Virginie, Pensylvanie, | Maryland et Caroline Sept^{tr.} | la Rivière d' Ohio, et toutes celles qui s'y jettent | partie de la Rivière Mississippi | tout le cours de la Rivière des Illinois | le Lac Érié, partie des Lacs Huron | et Michigan, & | Toutes les contrées qui bordent | ces Lacs et Rivières, | Par Hutchins Capitaine Anglois. | A Paris, | chez le Rouge, Rue des grands Augustins | 1781.

The experiences of Hutchins's life prior to 1778, the date of publication of his map, by which he was enabled to collect the requisite geographical information, are narrated in the preceding biographical sketch and in the preface to the *Topographical Description*. Hutchins was acquainted with all the important maps, journals, and descriptions already published; and was indebted to Fry and Jefferson's map of Virginia, 1751, revised by J. Dalrymple, 1755, and republished with corrections, in 1775; and to Lewis Evans's "General Map of the Middle British Colonies in America," 1755, revised and corrected by Thomas Pownall, 1776.

In his *Louisiana and West Florida*, p. 57, Hutchins gives the date of publication of his book and map as "January, 1778;" but this must be a misprint for "November, 1778."

The maps were sold at a guinea apiece, and were for sale in America by Robert Aitkin, of Philadelphia.

For special references to the map in this volume, see *ante*, pp. 19, 22, 37, 49.

As an explanation of this map, Hutchins published on the same date the *Topographical Description* which is here reprinted. The title and text of this reprint are reproduced in facsimile from a copy in the Burrows Brothers collection, which differs in several respects from another copy in the Library of Congress. These differences, I believe, have not been previously noted in bibliographies. An examination of the variant copies establishes the fact that there was a second corrected

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impression of the book in the year 1778. On the title-page reproduced, there is a typographical error, the letter "l" being substituted for the letter "i" in the phrase "Captain in the 60th Regiment." Also at the back of page [67] are the words, "Entered at Stationers Hall," followed by a list of "Errata." In the second impression of the book, all these errors are corrected, sometimes requiring the respacing of a paragraph. Also, the words, "London, Published according to Act of Parliament Novembr. ye 1st, 1778, by Thos. Hutchins," are omitted from the bottom of the two plans. An extensive correspondence has shown that a considerable number of copies of the second impression are in existence. I have been unable to find a copy of the first impression without the list of errata at the back.

Of this book there have been two editions subsequent to 1778, and one partial reprint.

EDITION OF 1781

Description | topographique | de la Virginie, de la Pensylvanie, | du Maryland et de la Caroline | Septentrionale: | Contenant | les Rivières d' Ohio, Kenhawa, Soto, | Cherokéé, Wabash, des Illinois, du | Mississipi, &c.: | le climat, le sol, les productions, tant | annuelles que végétales ou minérales; | les montagnes, les rivières, chemins, distances, | latitudes, et de toutes les parties représentées | dans les cartes ci-jointes; | Publiée par Thomas Hutchins, | Capitaine du soixantième Régiment d'Infanterie: | Accompagnée d'un Plan des Sauts de l'Ohio, d'un autre | de tous les Villages du Canton des Illinois; une Table des | distances en milles entre le Fort-Pitt & l'embouchure de | l'Ohio dans le Mississipi; | Plus, un Supplément, qui contient le Journal de Patrice | Kennedy's, sur la Rivière des Illinois, & un Etat véritable des | différentes Nations & Tribus des Indiens, avec le nombre des Com- | battans. | Traduit de l'Anglois. | A Paris, | chez le Rouge, Géographe, rue des Grands-Augustins | M.DCC.-LXXXI. | Avec Approbation, et Privilège du Roi.

12mo, 68 pp., 1l., 2 maps, 1 tab.

EDITION OF 1787

The title of this edition is identical with that of the 1778 edition, except for a slight difference in spacing. The imprint is: Boston: | Printed and Sold by John Norman, in Marshall's | Lane near the Boston Stone | MDCCLXXXVII.

12mo, 30 + 2 pp., 2 maps, 1 tab.

REPRINT OF 1797

This reprint is Appendix 4, to Imlay (Gilbert), *A Topographical Description of the Western Territory of North America*. Third edition. London, 1797. Pp. 485-511. The reprint retains Kennedy's *Journal*, but omits the table of distances, the two plans, and Appendix 3.

Hutchins's book was for many years one of the important guides for travel and settlement in the western country. It is now prized as a

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historical document, and is classed among the rare and valuable Americana, having been sold at prices ranging from twelve to twenty dollars. Henry Stevens, Son & Stiles in their Catalogue of Books and Pamphlets relating to America, No. LXXXVI, June, 1904, page 1908, offer a copy of the book and map together at £15.

The following are biographical notes and references explanatory of the persons mentioned by Hutchins in the text of his work at the pages indicated:

Page i: *Captain Brehm.*

Lieut. Diederick Brehm. Communicated by G. D. Scull, Esq., of Oxford, Eng.

[In *New England (The) Historical and Genealogical Register*, 8vo., Boston, 1883. Vol. xxxvii., pp. 21-26.]

Pages ii, [7]: *Mr. Lewis Evans.*

National Cyclopaedia of American Biography. Vol. xi., p. 427.

Page [2]: *The late Mr. Gist, of Virginia.*

Christopher Gist's journals with Historical, Geographical and Ethnological Notes and Biographies of his contemporaries. By William M. Darlington, Pittsburgh, J. R. Weldin & Co., 1893.

Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography. Vol. ii., p. 662.

Pages [10], [13]: *Colonel Gordon.*

See *ante*, pp. 17, 18, and *post*, p. 63.

[For the parts of Gordon's *Journal* quoted by Hutchins, see Pownall (Thomas), *A Topographical Description of Such Parts of North America as are Contained in the (Annexed) Map.* London, for J. Almon, 1776. Appendix 4, pp. 25.]

Page [11]: *Doctor Hunter.*

See *post*, p. 64.

Page [15]: *A worthy Friend, and Countryman:* [i. e., Benjamin Franklin.]

See *ante*, p. 23-26.

Page [51]: *Patrick Kennedy.*

Patrick Kennedy, the author of the journal contained in Appendix I of Hutchins's book, was one of the earliest inhabitants of Kaskaskia, then the capital of the Illinois country and the center of trade and influence. For many years the citizens of Kaskaskia had believed that there were copper mines in the upper Illinois country, as specimens of the metal had frequently been brought in by the Indians. The expedition chronicled in Kennedy's *Journal* was in search of these mines.

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Kennedy was one of the framers of a petition of the English merchants of Kaskaskia, addressed on April 10, 1777, "To His Excellency, General Carleton, Governor of the Province of Canada, etc., etc., etc., Residing at Quebec." This petition prayed redress for the unjust discrimination in favor of French settlers, of Mons. Phillippe de Rocheblave, the new governor of the post.*

Kennedy is mentioned as one of the witnesses at an examination of one Henry Butler, at Post Vincennes before Governor Rocheblave, on February 15-16, 1778. This examination was to obtain information concerning the operations of the Revolutionary army in the east.

When the expedition of George Rogers Clark for the "conquest of the Illinois" from the British was planned, Kennedy joined Clark's forces. He is mentioned in the manuscript journal of Major Bowman (Feb. 17, 1779), as commissary of the expedition. This was before the taking of Post Vincennes. And when Clark, on March 20, 1779, set out from Vincennes for Detroit, "Patrick Kennedy, Quartermaster," was one of the officers left in charge of the garrison.

Under the acts of Congress granting donations of four hundred acres of land each to heads of families in the district of Kaskaskia, Kennedy's claim for his allotment was approved by the board of commissioners, he having cultivated and improved land prior to 1788.†

OTHER PUBLISHED WORKS‡

Accounts transmitted by Col. Bouquet to Sir Jeffery Amherst.

[In *Gentleman's (The) Magazine; and Historical Chronicle*. By Sylvanus Urban. 8vo., London, for D. Henry and R. Cave, 1763. Vol. xxxiii., pp. 487-489.]

The above is attributed by Col. Charles Whittlesey to Thomas Hutchins. There seems to be little foundation for his conjecture.

Description of a remarkable rock and cascade, near the western side of Youghiogeny river, a quarter of a mile from Crawford's ferry, and about twelve miles from Union-Town, in Fayette county, in the state of Pennsylvania. By Thomas Hutchins.

*For this and following references, see *Illinois Historical Collections*, vol. i. The data are taken from manuscripts in the Canadian Archives.

†*American State Papers: Public Lands*, vol. ii., p. 163.

‡The three articles in the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London*, vols. lxxv. (1775), lxxvi. (1776), lxxviii. (1783) which have frequently been attributed to Hutchins, were written by a Thomas Hutchins who was governor of Albany Fort, on Hudson Bay.

Hon. H. W. Beckwith in *Illinois State Historical Library. Collections*. 1903. vol. i. Appendix, page 46, attributes to Hutchins the authorship of "A plan of Cascaskies" in Pittman's *The Present State of the European Settlements on the Mississippi, 1770*. The copy of the plan in the Library of Congress is by "Thos. Kitchin," the famous English geographer.

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[In American Philosophical Society, *Transactions*, Quarto. Philadelphia, the Society, 1786. Vol. ii., p. 50.]

—*Idem.*

[In *Annual (The) Register or a View of the History, Politics, and Literature for the year 1787*. 8vo., London, for J. Dodsley, 1789. Vol. xxix., "Natural History," pp. 55-56.]

—*Idem.*

[In Imlay (Gilbert), *A Topographical Description of the Western Territory of North America*. Third edition, 8vo., London, J. Debrett, 1797, pp. 304-305.]

An historical account of the expedition against the Ohio Indians, in the year 1764, under the command of Henry Bouquet, Esq., colonel of foot, and now brigadier general in America, &c., including his transactions with the Indians, relative to the delivery of their prisoners, and the preliminaries of peace. With an introductory account of the preceding campaign and battle of Bushy-Run. To which are annexed military papers, containing reflections on the war with the savages; a method of forming frontier settlements; some account of the Indian country, with a list of nations, fighting men, towns, distances and different routs. The whole illustrated with a map and copperplates. Published from authentic documents, by a Lover of his Country. Philadelphia, W. Bradford, M.DCC.LXV.

Quarto, xiii. + 71 pp., 1 map, 2 plans.

For the reasons stated in the biographical sketch, *ante*, pp. 16, 16, 40, and for reference purposes, this book is included in the list of Hutchins's works.

—*Idem.* Philadelphia printed; London, reprinted for T. Jefferies, M.DCC.LXVI.

Quarto, xiii. + 71 pp., 1 map, 2 plans, 2 pl.

Plans on reduced scale. Additional plates engraved by Grignon, from the earliest drawings of Benjamin West.

—*Idem.* [In French.] A Amsterdam: chez Marc-Michel Rey, M.DCC.LXIX.

8vo, half-title, title, vi.-xvi., 147, 1x pp., 4 folded plans, 2 pl.

Translated by C. G. F. Dumas. Contains biography of Bouquet.

—*Idem.* Dublin: printed for John Milliken, 1769. *12mo.*, xx + 99 pp., maps, pl.

—*Idem.*

[In *Olden (The) Time*. 8vo., Pittsburgh, 1846-1848. Vol. i., pp. 203-221, and 241-261.]

Without the maps and plates.

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—*Idem.* Cincinnati, O., R. Clarke & Co., 1868. 8vo., xviii.+162 pp., 1 map, 2 plans, 2 pl.

Preface by Francis Parkman. Reprinted from London edition, 1766, with translation of Bouquet biography from French edition. No. 1, in "Ohio Valley Historical Series."

An historical narrative and topographical description of Louisiana, and West-Florida, comprehending the river Mississippi with its principal branches and settlements, and the rivers Pearl, Pascagoula, Mobile, Perdido, Escambia, Chacta-Hatcha, &c., the climate, soil, and produce, whether animal, vegetable, or mineral; with directions for sailing into all the bays, lakes, harbours and rivers on the north side of the Gulf of Mexico, and for navigating between the islands situated along the coast, and ascending the Mississippi river. By Thomas Hutchins, geographer to the United States. Philadelphia: printed for the author, and sold by Robert Aitken, M.DCC.LXXXIV.

8vo., iv.+94 pp., 1l.

—*Idem.*

[In Imlay (Gilbert), *A Topographical Description of the Western Territory of North America*. Third edition, 8vo., London, J. Debrett, 1797. Appendix 1, pp. 388-458.]

Carte des environs du fort Pitt et de la nouvelle province Indiana, dedice a M. Franklin. 9x12.

[In Hutchins (Thomas), *Description Topographique de la Virginie*. 12mo., Paris, le Rouge, 1781. At end.]

A map of the country on the Ohio & Muskingum rivers shewing the situation of the Indian towns with respect to the army under the command of Colonel Bouquet. By Thos. Hutchins, asst. engineer. 9¾x12½.

[In *Historical (An) Account of the Expedition against the Ohio Indians in the Year 1764*. 8vo., Philadelphia, 1765. Front.]

Same map in all the editions and reprints of this work except that in *Olden Time*.

—*Idem.* 9¾x12½.

[In Jefferys (Thomas), *A General Topography of North America and the West Indies*. Folio, London, for R. Sayer & T. Jefferys, 1765. No. 52.]

—*Idem.* 9½x12½.

[In Hildreth (Samuel Prescott), *Pioneer History*. 8vo., Cincinnati, H. W. Derby & Co., 1848. Between pp. ii.-iii.]

—*Idem.* 3¼x4¾.

[In Winsor (Justin), *Narrative and Critical History of America*. Folio, Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1888. Vol. vi., p. 696.]

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—*Idem.* 7½x9¼.

[In Parkman (Francis), *History of the Conspiracy of Pontiac*. 8vo, Boston, Little, Brown & Co., 1855. Between pp. 478-479.]

Plan of the battle near Bushy Run, gained by Colonel Bouquet, over the Delawares, Shawanes, Mingoës, Wyandots, Mohikons, Miamies & Ottawas; on the 5th, and 6th, of August, 1763. Survey'd by Thos. Hutchins, assistant engineer. 5½ x 5¼.

[In *Historical (Any) Account of the Expedition against the Ohio Indians in the Year 1764*. 8vo., Philadelphia, 1765. Between pp. 21-25.]

Same plan in all the editions and reprints of this work, except that in *Olden Time*.

—*Idem.* 5¼x5¾.

[In Jefferys (Thomas), *A General Topography of North America and the West Indies*. Folio, London, for R. Sayer and T. Jefferys, 1768. No. 53.]

—*Idem.* 4¾x4¾.

[In Winsor (Justin), *Narrative and Critical History of America*. Folio, Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1888. Vol. vi., p. 693.]

—*Idem.* 11x16¼.

[In Rupp (Israel Daniel), *Early History of Western Pennsylvania* 8vo., Pittsburgh, 1848. Facing p. 145.]

A plan of the rapids in the river Ohio, by Thos. Hutchins. I. Cheevers sculpt. 5¾x7¼. [1766.]

[In his *A Topographical Description of Virginia*. 12mo., London, 1778. Between pp. 8-9.]

"See annexed plan. It is a correct description of these Rapids, made by the editor, on the spot in the year 1766."

—*Idem.* 2¾x4½.

[In Filson (John), *The Discovery, Settlement and Present State of Kentucky*. 8vo., London, for J. Stockdale, 1793. Inset to Filson's map of Kentucky. Between pp. 8-9.]

—*Idem.* Engraved for Imlay's *American Topography*. T. Conder, sculpt. Published Feby. 1st., 1793, by J. Debrett, Picadilly, London. 6x7¼.

[In Imlay (Gilbert), *A Topographical Description of the Western Territory of North America*. Third edition, 8vo., London, J. Debrett, 1797. Between pp. 32-33.]

Contains additions to original plate, and omits Hutchins's name.

A Plan of the Several Villages in the Illinois Country, with Part of the River Mississippi, &c., by Thos. Hutchins. 7¼x5.

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[In his *A Topographical Description of Virginia*. 12mo., London, 1778. Between pp. 40-41.]

— *Idem*. 7½x1½.

[In Parkman (Francis), *History of the Conspiracy of Pontiac*. 8vo, Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1855. Between pp. 512-513.]

— *Idem*. 5¼x3¼.

[In Winsor (Justin), *Narrative and Critical History of America*. Folio, Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1888. Vol. vi., p. 700.]

— *Idem*. 7½x4½.

[In Ontario and Manitoba. *Matter of the Boundary between the Provinces of Ontario and Manitoba. Copies of maps produced on behalf of Ontario. Map "A".*]

A survey of that part of the Indian country through which Colonel Bouquet marched in 1764. By Thomas Hutchins, assistant engineer. 4¾x12½.

[In *Historical (An) Account of the Expedition against the Ohio Indians in the Year 1764*. 8vo., Philadelphia, 1765. Front.]

Same map in all the editions and reprints of this work, except that in *Olden Time*.

— *Idem*. 4¾x12½.

[In Jefferys (Thomas), *A General Topography of North America and the West Indies*. Folio, London, for R. Sayer & T. Jefferys, 1768. No. 52.]

— *Idem*. 4¾x12½.

[In Hildreth (Samuel Prescott), *Pioneer History*. 8vo., Cincinnati, H. W. Derby & Co., 1848. Between pp. ii-iii.]

UNPUBLISHED WORKS

MANUSCRIPTS IN THE LIBRARY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, PHILADELPHIA

A folio volume with cover title, *Papers of Thos. Hutchins, Geographer General U. S., 1771 &c.* These papers were presented to the Society in 1876 by Prof. W. S. Cooley. There is no record of how they came into his possession. Besides many miscellaneous notes, sketches, etc., the volume contains the following items. Those marked with an asterisk (*) are not Hutchins's own work.

Beginning at the Shawanoe River the 16th, Augst., 1769 and proceeded down the River. *Folio, 8 pp.*

Courses of the Kaskaskia River. *Folio, 18 pp.*

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Courses of the Shawanoc River from the mouth upwards. *Folio*, 12 *ff.*

A Description of part of the Country westward of the River Ohio with the Distances Computed from Fort Pitt to the several Indian towns by Land and Water. 18 *ff.* and 5 *maps.*

A Description of Several Parts of the Western Country. *Folio*, 13 *ff.*

A Description of the Sea Coast, Harbours, Lakes, Rivers, &c., of the Province of West Florida. *Quarto*, 11 *ff.*

[Descriptive notes, field notes, etc., relating to Lower Mississippi and the lakes near the Gulf.] 37 *ff.*+12 *ff.*

An Estimate of the Expence it will take to finish completely, as well the Works already begun, as those originally intended to be made at Pensacola, by Order of the Commander in Chief of North America. [Dated], London, May 8th, 1777. [Signed], Tho: Hutchins, Acting Engineer. *Folio*, 11.

First Expedition of the French into N. America. *Folio*, 10 *ff.*

Journal from Susquehannah to the Ohio. *Folio*, 28 *ff.*

A Journal of a march from Fort Pitt to Venango and from thence to Presqu'Isle. *Folio*, 3 *ff.*

Printed in *Pennsylvania Magazine of History*, vol. II, pp. 149-153.

*Journal of a surveying party in employment of Capt: Johnson, Thos: Hutchins, Alex. McCullough and Hall Bay, Esq. 26th, July to 17th, Sept. 1774. Pensacola, James Nowland. Copied by Right Rev'd Geo: Uppold, D. D. Ward, Librarian, Binder. [Cover Title.] *Quarto*, 23 *ll.*

Copy made at Pittsburg, December 4, 1846, from the original in possession of David T. Morgan.

*Journal of Capt. Harry Gordon down the Ohio River, 1766.
Incomplete copy ending with October 28, 1766.

*A Journal of Gen. Sullivan's Campaign to the Susquehannah & a Draft of the same. *Folio*, 10 *ff.*

Locations of good Lands on the Waters of the Monongahela, Little Canhawa, in the Traders Tract & on the Great Canhawa. *Folio*, 3 *ff.*

Letters

To Captⁿ. James Young, Paymaster to the Pennsylvania Troops. [Dated], Pittsburgh, Augt. 6th., 1759. *Folio*, 2 *ff.*

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To Mr. George Morgan, Merchant, Kaskaskia. [Dated], Ft. Chartres, 13th Sept., 1770. *Folio, 2 pp.*

To Robert Lettue Hooper Esq. [Dated], Philada., 28th., Novr. 1771. *Folio, 2 pp.*

Maps

Course of the Tago River. 13x16.

[Map of "Fort at Pittsburgh" and "Fort Duquesne."] Colored, 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ x14.

Insets, "Profile for Fort Duquesne," and "Profile for Pittesburgh." Has explanatory legend.

[Map of Kentucky river.] 12x7.

[Map of the Lower Mississippi.] 7x11.

[Map of the River Apclousa and bay.] 11x9.

"Drawn from memory from Dr. Lorimer who has the original manuscript from draft taken by a Frenchman."

[Map of the Wabash River.] 15x12.

[Map of the White River and part of the Mississippi.] 13x8.

Shows "Fort Gabriel," "White River," "Mississippi," "Sneake Bluff," and "New Fort."

*[Map showing Gen. Sullivan's route.] 18x13.

Gives "Seneca Lake," "Cayuga Lake," and route from "Chenissee River" to "Coharo" at head of "Cayuga Lake," and thence to "Fort Read" and "F. Sullivan."

Notes on Tuscarawas (Ohio) country, with map.

*Observations on the Bones commonly supposed to be Elephants Bones which have been found near the River Ohio in America. By William Hunter, M. D., F. R. S. *Quarto, 18 pp.*

Copied from *Philosophical Transactions*, 1768. See also note to *Topographical Description*, p. [11].

*[Parchment commission of Thomas Hutchins, Esq., appointing him "Captain Lieutenant to that company in the Second Battalion of Our Sixtieth or Royal American Regiment of Foot, commanded by Our Right Trusty and Wel-beloved Councillor, Sir Jeffery Amherst." Dated September 24, 1775.]

Politicks of the Ohio Country. *Folio, 3 pp.*

Remarks on the country of the Illinois, &c. &c. [ending with], An account of the Exports from the Illinois, from Sept. 1769 to September, 1770. *Folio, 8 pp.*

LIST OF WORKS

Remarks on the River Amit. *Folio, 1 l.*

Remarks relating to the Rivers Mississippi, Ibberville, Amit & Lakes Maurepas & Pontchartrain. *Folio, 2 ll.*

The Rout from Fort Pitt to Sandusky, and thence to Detroit. [and] The Rout by land from Fort Pitt to Venango; and from thence to Le Boeuf, and Presquisle. *Folio, 12 pp.*

Of the second item, there is also a separate copy. *6 pp.*

Some Remarks on Georgia and South Carolina. *Folio, 10 pp.*

Topographical Description of Virginia, Carolina and Georgia. *Folio, 3 pp.*

MANUSCRIPTS IN THE LIBRARY OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C.

A folio volume with cover title, "The papers of the Continental Congress. Letters of J. Carleton and T. Hutchins." Plans. Vol. lx., pp. 1 to 453. Hutchins's letters commence with page 160, where they are headed, "Letters. Thomas Hutchins, geographer. From July 11, 1781, to 15 Augt., 1788 inclu."

This volume contains thirty letters written by Hutchins to the President of Congress concerning matters pertaining to the office of geographer. Accompanying one of these is a paper entitled, "A brief account of the soil and timber in that part of the Western Territory through which an east and west line has been surveyed—agreeable to an ordinance of congress of the 20th, of May 1785. Beginning on the North bank of the Ohio River at a point due North from the Western termination of a line which has been run as the southern boundary of the state of Pennsylvania." *Folio, 8 pp.*

MANUSCRIPT PLATS IN THE DRAFTING DIVISION, UNITED STATES GENERAL LAND OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

In this Division are seventy-nine manuscript plats of the seven ranges surveyed in Ohio. Each is mounted upon a board 20x16 inches in size, the plats themselves being each 12x12 inches. The scale is 40 chains to one inch. They indicate the survey only upon exterior lines, although in many instances the section lines are drawn. The sections sold have been indicated by a later hand, the date of sale being given. Each plat is signed by the surveyor who ran the lines. Plats for townships 4, 5, 9, 15 and 16, in ranges 2, 5, 7, 7 and 7, respectively are wanting. The plats of the thirty-eight townships in ranges one to four were surveyed and drawn under the direction of Thomas Hutchins. See "Biographical Sketch," page 46.

LIST OF WORKS

MANUSCRIPTS IN THE CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Two letters written by Hutchins to Hon. John Montgomery. [Dated], Philadelphia, May 19 and May 26, 1784, respectively. These letters are printed in *Magazine of Western History*, vol. iv, May-Oct., 1886, p. 684.

MANUSCRIPTS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM

[*Transcripts in Canadian Archives.*]

Eleven letters to Colonel Bouquet, and one to Major Gates, written in the years 1759-1765.

[*Bouquet Papers.*]

Eighteen letters to Brigadier Haldimand, one to Captain Sowers, one to Lieutenant Cambel, and one to Alexander Macculloch, written in the years 1766-1774.

[*Haldimand Papers.*]

A sketch of the Ouabache &c. from Post Vincent to the Ohio. By Tho: Hutchins. [1768].

[*Haldimand Papers*, 21,686, p. 23.]

Reproduced (6½ x 6 in.) in Hulbert (A. B.), *Historic Highways of America*. Quarto, Cleveland, O., The Arthur H. Clark Co., 1903, vol. viii., page 35. Shows "Path from Kaskasquias to Post Vincent."

THOMAS HUTCHINS

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF
VIRGINIA, PENNSYLVANIA, MARY-
LAND, AND NORTH CAROLINA

LONDON: Printed for the Author, 1778

Text and plates reproduced from a copy of the original edition in possession of the Publishers;
large map photolithographed from the original in the Library of Congress

A
TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION
O F
VIRGINIA, PENNSYLVANIA,
MARYLAND, AND NORTH CAROLINA,

COMPREHENDING THE
RIVERS OHIO, KENHAWA, SIOTO, CHEROKEE,
WABASH, ILLINOIS, MISSISSIPPI, &c.

T H E
CLIMATE, SOIL AND PRODUCE,
W H E T H E R
ANIMAL, VEGETABLE, OR MINERAL;

T H E
MOUNTAINS, CREEKS, ROADS, DISTANCES, LATI-
TUDES, &c. and of every Part, laid down in the an-
nexed MAP.

Published by THOMAS HUTCHINS,
CAPTAIN In the 60th Regiment of Foot.

W I T H A
PLAN of the RAPIDS of the OHIO, a PLAN of the several
VILLAGES in the ILLINOIS COUNTRY, a TABLE of the
DISTANCES between FORT PITT and the Mouth of the
OHIO, all Engraved upon Copper.

A N D
An APPENDIX, containing Mr. PATRICK KENNEDY'S
JOURNAL up the ILLINOIS RIVER, and a correct List of the
different NATIONS and TRIBES of INDIANS, with the
Number of FIGHTING MEN, &c.

L O N D O N :

Printed for the AUTHOR, and Sold by J. ALMONS,
opposite Burlington House, in Piccadilly.

M DCC LXXVIII.

T H E
P R E F A C E.

TH E Map, which the following sheets are intended to explain, comprehends almost the whole of the country, lying between the 34th and 44th degrees of latitude, and the 79th and 93d degrees of longitude, and describes an extent of territory, of about 850 miles in length, and 700 miles in breadth; and one, which, for healthfulness, fertility of soil, and variety of productions, is not, perhaps, surpassed by any on the habitable globe.

Those parts of the country lying *westward* of the Allegheny mountain, and upon the rivers *Ohio* and *Mississippi*, and upon most of the other rivers; and the lakes (laid down in my Map) were done from my own Surveys, and corrected by my own Observations of latitudes, made at different periods preceding, and during all the campaigns of the *last* war (in several of which I acted as an Engineer) and *since* in many reconnoitring tours, which I made through various parts of the country, between the years 1764 and 1775.

I have compared my own Observations, and Surveys, respecting the lakes, with those made by Captain Brehm, of the 60th

[ii] Regiment of Foot (who was for many years employed as an Engineer in North America) and I find, that they correspond with more exactness than Surveys usually do, which are made by different persons, at different times;—and I am happy in this opportunity, of expressing my obligations to this Gentleman, for the cheerfulness with which he furnished me with his Surveys and Remarks.

It is fit also, that I should take notice, that in the account which I have given of several of the *branches* of the Ohio, and Alleghany rivers, I have adopted the words of the late ingenious Mr. Lewis Evans, as I found he had properly described them in the Analysis to his Map of the Middle Colonies.—And as to that portion of my Map, which represents the country lying on the *eastern* side of the Allegheny mountain,—I take the liberty of informing my Readers, that my reason for inserting it was to shew the several communications that are *now* made, and others which may be hereafter, easily, made, between the navigable branches of the *Ohio* and *Allegheny* rivers, and the rivers in *Virginia* and *Pennsylvania*, which fall into the Atlantic ocean, from the west and north-west.

LONDON, Nov. 1, 1778.

A

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION, &c.

THE lands lying on a westerly line, between the *Laurel* Mountain and the *Allegheny* River, and thence northerly up that River for 150 miles, on both sides of the same, tho' not much broken with high mountains, are not of the same excellent quality with the lands to the southward of Fort Pitt. They consist chiefly of *White Oak*, and *Chestnut* ridges; and in many places of poor *Pitch Pines*, interperfed with tracts of good land; and low meadow grounds.

The lands comprehended between the River *Ohio*, at Fort Pitt, and the *Laurel* Mountain, and thence continuing the same breadth from Fort Pitt to the Great *Kanhawa* River, may, according to my own [2] observations, and those of the late Mr. Gift, of Virginia, be generally, and justly described as follows.

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

The vallies adjoining to the branches or springs of the middle forks of *Youghiogeny*, are narrow towards its source,—but there is a considerable quantity of good farming grounds on the hills, near the largest branch of that River.—The lands within a small distance of the *Laurel* Mountain (through which the *Youghiogeny* runs) are in many places broken and stoney, but *rich* and well timbered; and in some places, and particularly on *Laurel* Creek, they are rocky and mountainous.

From the *Laurel* Mountain, to *Monongahela*, the first seven miles are good, level farming grounds, with fine meadows; the timber, white Oak, Chestnut, Hickory, &c.—The same kind of land continues southerly (12 miles) to the upper branches or forks of this River, and about 15 miles northerly to the place where the *Youghiogeny* falls into the *Monongahela*.—The lands, for about 18 miles [3] in the same Course of the last-mentioned River, on each side of it, tho' hilly, are *rich* and well timbered.—The trees are Walnut, Locust, Chestnut, Pop-

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

lar, and Sugar or sweet Maple. — The low lands, near the River, are about a mile, and in several places two miles wide. — For a considerable way down the River, on the eastern side of it, the intervals are extremely *rich*, and about a mile wide. The Upland for about 12 miles eastwardly, are uncommonly fertile, and well timbered; — the low lands, on the western side, are narrow; but the Uplands, on the eastern side of the River, both up and down, are excellent, and covered with Sugar trees, &c.

Such parts of the country which lie on some of the branches of the *Monongahela*, and across the heads of several Rivers, that run into the *Ohio*, tho' in general hilly, are exceedingly fruitful and well watered. — The timber is Walnut, Chefnut, Ash, Oak, Sugar trees, &c.—and the interval or meadow lands are from 250 yards to a quarter of a mile wide.

[4] The lands lying nearly in a *north-westerly direction* from the *Great Kanawha River* to the *Ohio*, and thence *north-easterly*, and also upon *Le Tort's Creek*, *Little Kanawha River*, *Buffaloe*, *Fishing*,

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

Weeling, and the two upper, and two lower, and several other very considerable *Creeks* (or what, in Europe, would be called large Rivers,) and thence east, and south-east to the *River Monongahela*, are, in point of quality, as follows.

The borders or meadow lands, are a mile, and in some places near two miles wide; and the Uplands are in common of a most fertile soil, capable of abundantly producing *Wheat*, *Hemp*, *Flax*, &c.

The lands which lie upon the *Ohio*, at the mouths of, and between the above *Creeks*, also consist of rich intervals and very fine farming grounds.--The whole country abounds in *Bears*, *Elks*, *Buffaloe*, *Deer*, *Turkies*, &c.---An unquestionable proof of the extraordinary goodness of its soil! *

[5] *Fort Pitt* stands at the confluence of the *Allegheny* and *Monongahela* Rivers; in latitude $40^{\circ} 31' 44''$; and about five degrees westward of Philadelphia.--In the year 1760, a small town, called *Pittsburgh*, was built near *Fort Pitt*, and about 200 families

* *Indiana*, as may be seen in my Map, lies within the territory here described. It contains about three millions and an half of Acres, and was granted to Samuel Wharton, William Trent and George Morgan Esquires, and a few other persons, in the year 1768.

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

resided in it; but upon the Indian war breaking out (in the month of May 1763.) They abandoned their houses, and retired into the fort.

In the year 1765 the present town of *Pittsburgh* was laid out. It is built on the Eastern bank of the River *Monongahela*, about 200 yards from *Fort Pitt*.

The junction of the *Allegheny* and *Monongahela* rivers, forms the River *Ohio*, and this discharges itself into the *Mississippi*, (in latitude $36^{\circ} 43'$) about 1188 computed miles from *Fort Pitt*. The *Ohio* in its passage to the *Mississippi*, glides thro' a pleasant, fruitful and healthy country;---and carries a great uniformity of breadth, from 400 to 600 yards, except at its confluence with the *Mississippi*, and [6] for 100 miles above it, where it is 1000 yards wide. The *Ohio*, for the greater part of the way to the *Mississippi*, has many meanders, or windings, and rising grounds upon both sides of it.

The reaches in the *Ohio* are in some parts from two to four miles in length, and one of them, above the *Munckinum* River, called the *Long Reach*, is sixteen

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

miles and a half long. The *Ohio*, about 100 miles *above*, or northerly of the *Rapids*, (formerly called the *Falls*) is in many places 700 yards wide; and as it approaches them, the *high* grounds on its borders gradually diminish, and the country becomes more level. Some of the banks, or heights of this River, are at times overflowed by great freshes, yet there is scarce a place between *Fort Pitt* and the *Rapids* (a distance of 705 computed miles) where a good road may not be made; and horses employed in drawing up large barges (as is done on the margin of the River *Thames* in *England*, and the *Seine* in *France*) against a stream remarkably gentle, except in high freshes. The heights of the banks [7] of the *Ohio* admit them every where to be settled, as they are not liable to crumble away. And to these Remarks, it may be proper to add the following observations of the ingenious Mr. *Lewis Evans*, as published in the Analysis to his Map of the Middle Colonies of *North America*, in the year 1755.---He says, that the “ *Ohio* River, as the winter snows
“ are thawed, by the warmth or rains

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

“ in the spring, rises in vast floods, in
“ some places, exceeding 20 feet in
“ height, but scarce any where overflow-
“ ing its *high and upright banks*. These
“ floods, Mr. *Evans* adds, continue of
“ some height for at least a month or
“ two, according to the late or early break-
“ ing up of the winter.---Vessels from
“ 100 to 200 tons burthen, by taking
“ the advantage of these floods, may go
“ from *Pittsburg to the Sea* with *safety*, as
“ then the Falls, Rifts, and Shoals are
“ covered to an equality with the rest of
“ the River;---and tho’ the distance is up-
wards of 2000 miles from *Fort Pitt* to
[8] the sea, yet as there are no obstructions,
to prevent vessels from proceeding both
day and night,---I am persuaded, that
this extraordinary Inland Voyage may
be performed, during the season of
the floods, by rowing, in sixteen or seven-
teen days.

The Navigation of the *Ohio* in a dry
season, is rather troublesome *from Fort
Pitt to the Mingo town*, (about seventy-five
miles) but from *thence to the Mississippi*,
there is always a sufficient depth of water

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

for barges, carrying from 100 to 200 tons burthen, built in the manner as those are which are used on the River *Thames*, between *London* and *Oxford*;---to wit, from 100 to 120 feet in the keel, sixteen to eighteen feet in breadth, and four feet in depth, and when loaded, drawing about three feet water.

The *Rapids*, in a *dry* season, are difficult to descend with *loaded* boats or barges, without a good Pilot;---it would be advisable therefore for the Bargemen, in such season, rather than run any risk in passing [9] them to unload part of their cargoes, and reship it *when the barges have got through the Rapids*. It may, however, be proper to observe, that loaded boats *in freshes*, have been easily rowed *against* the stream, (*up the Rapids*) and that others, by means, only, of a large sail, have ascended them.

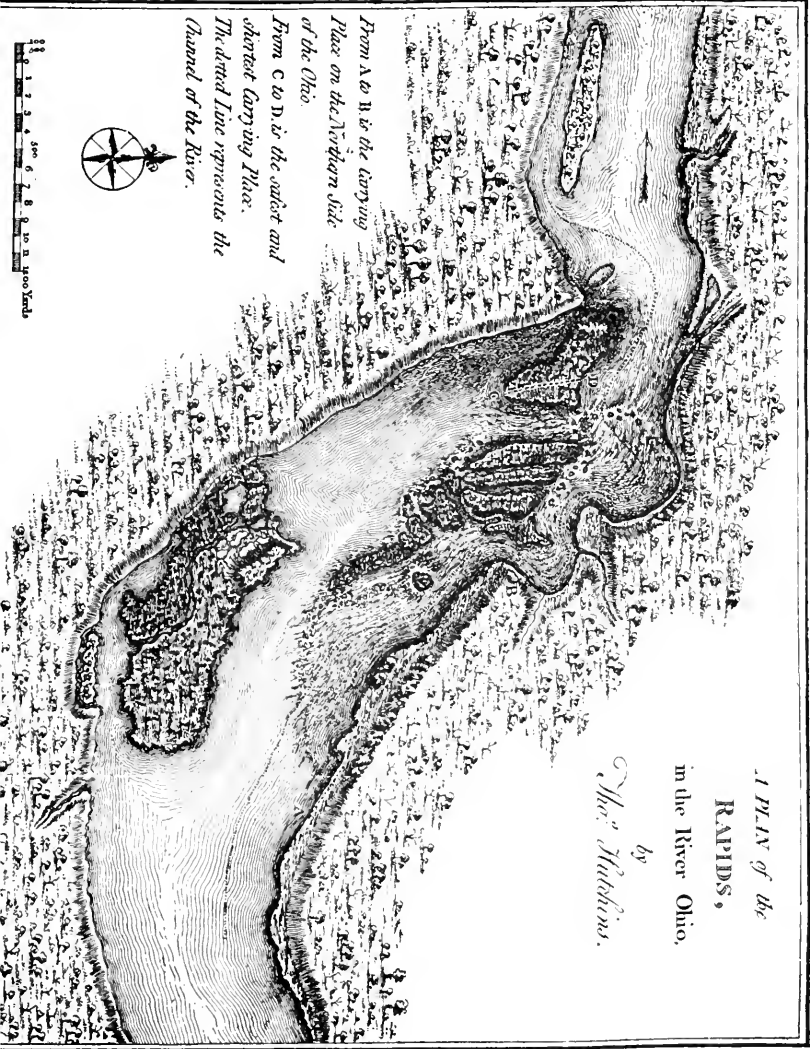
In a *dry* season, the descent of the *Rapids*, in the distance of a mile, is about 12, or 15 feet, and the passage *down*, would not be difficult, except, perhaps, for the following reasons. Two miles above them, the River is deep, and three quarters of a mile broad;—but the *channel* is

A PLAN of the
RAPIDS,
in the River Ohio.

by
Geo. Hutchins.

*From A to H is the longest
Place on the Northern side
of the Ohio.*

*From C to D is the safest and
shortest carrying Place.
The dotted line represents the
Channel of the River.*



A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

much contracted, and does not exceed 250 yards in breadth; (near three-fourths of the bed of the River, on the south-eastern side of it—being filled with a flat Limestone rock, so that in a dry season, there is seldom more than 6 or 8 inches water) it is upon the northern side of the River, and being confined, as above-mentioned; the descending waters tumble over the *Rapids* with a considerable degree of celerity and force. The channel is of different depths, but no where, I think, less than 5 feet;—It is clear, and upon [10] each side of it are large broken rocks, a few inches under water*. The *Rapids* are nearly in Latitude $38^{\circ} 8'$;—and the only Indian village (in 1766) on the banks of the *Ohio* River between them and *Fort*

* Colonel GORDON, in his Journal *down* the Ohio mentions, “ that these Falls do not deserve that Name, as the “ Stream on the north side has no sudden pitch, but only “ runs rapid over the ledge of a flat rock;—several boats, he “ says, passed it in the *dryest season of the year*; unloading “ one third of their freight. They passed on the north side, “ where the carrying-place is three quarters of a mile long. “ On the south-east side, it is about half that distance, and is “ reckoned the safest passage for those, who are unacquainted “ with it, but it is the most tedious, as during part of the summer, and Fall, the Battomen drag their boats over the

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Pitt, was on the north-west side, 75 miles below *Pittsburgh*, called the *Mingo* town; it contained 60 families.

Most of the Hills on both sides of the *Ohio* are filled with excellent coal, and a coal [11] mine was in the year 1760 opened opposite to *Fort Pitt* on the River *Monongahela*, for the use of that Garrison. *Salt Springs*, as well as *Iron Ore*, and rich *Lead Mines*, are found bordering upon the River *Ohio*. One of the latter, is opened on a branch of the *Sioto* River, and there, the *Indian* natives supply themselves with a considerable part of the lead, which they use in their wars, and hunting.

About 584 miles below *Fort Pitt*, and on the eastern side of the *Ohio* River, about three miles from it, at the head of a small Creek or Run, where are several large and miry Salt Springs, are found numbers of large bones, teeth and tusks, commonly supposed to be those of Ele-
“ flat rock. The Fall is about half a mile rapid water, which
“ however is passable, by wading and dragging the boat
“ against the stream, *when lowest*, and with still greater
“ ease, when the water is raised a little.”—

See the annexed Plan. It is a *correct* Description of these Rapids, made by the Editor, on the spot in the year 1766.

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phants:—but the celebrated Doctor *Hunter* of London, in his ingenious and curious Observations on these bones, &c. has supposed them to belong to some Carnivorous animal, larger than an ordinary Elephant*.

On the North-Western side of *Ohio*, about 11 miles below the *Cherokee* River, on a high bank, are the remains of *Fort* [12] *Maffiac*, built by the *French*, and intended as a check to the Southern Indians. It was destroyed by them in the year 1763. This is a high, healthy and delightful situation. A great variety of Game;—*Buffaloe*, *Bear*, *Deer*, &c. as well as *Ducks*, *Geese*, *Swans*, *Turkies*, *Pheasants*, *Partridges*, &c. abounds in every part of this country.

The *Ohio*, and the Rivers emptying into it, afford green, and other Turtle, and fish of various sorts;—particularly *Carp*, *Sturgeon*, *Perch*, and *Cats*; the two latter of an uncommon size, viz. *Perch*, from 8 to 12 pounds weight, and *Cats* from 50 to 100 pounds weight.

* See *Philosophical Transactions*, 1768.

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The lands upon the *Ohio*, and its branches, are differently timbered according to their quality and situation. The high, and dry lands, are covered with *Red, White and Black Oak, Hickory, Walnut, Red and White Mulberry* and *Ash Trees*,--- *Grape Vines*, &c. The low and meadow lands are filled with *Sycamore, Poplar, Red and White Mulberry, Cherry, Beech, Elm, Aspen, Maple, or Sugar Trees, Grape Vines*, &c. And below, or fourthwardly of the *Rapids*, are several large [13] *Cedar* and *Cypress Swamps*, where the *Cedar* and *Cypress* trees grow to a remarkable size, and where also is a great abundance of Canes, such as grow in *South Carolina*. The country on both sides of of the *Ohio*, extending South-easterly, and South-westerly from *Fort Pitt* to the *Mississippi*, and watered by the *Ohio River*, and its branches, contains at least *a million of square miles*, and it may, with truth, be affirmed, that no part of the globe is blessed with a more healthful air, or climate;---* watered with more naviga-

* Colonel GORDON, in his *Journal*, gives the following Description of the soil and climate. "The country on the

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

ble rivers and branches communicating [14] with the *Atlantick Ocean*, by the rivers *Potozmack*, *James*, *Rappahannock*, *Mississippi*, and *St. Lawrence*, or capable of producing with less labour and expence, *Wheat*, *Indian Corn*, *Buck-wheat*, *Rye*, *Oats*, *Barley*, *Flax*, *Hemp*, *Tobacco*, *Rice*, *Silk*, *Pot-ash*, &c. than the country under consideration. And although there are considerable quantities of high lands for about 250 miles (on both sides of the river *Ohio*) southwardly from *Fort Pitt*, yet even the summits of most of the Hills are covered with a deep rich soil, fit for the culture of Flax and Hemp, and it may also be added, that no soil can pos-

“ Ohio, &c. is every where pleasant, with large level spots of
“ rich land, remarkably healthy. One general remark of
“ this nature may serve for the whole tract of the Globe,
“ comprehended between the Western skirts of the Alle-
“ gheny mountains, beginning at Fort LEGONIER, thence
“ bearing South-westerly to the distance of 500 miles oppo-
“ site to the Ohio Falls, then crossing them Northerly to the
“ heads of the Rivers, that empty themselves into the OHIO;
“ thence East along the ridge, that separates the Lakes and
“ OHIO'S Streams to FRENCH CREEK, which is opposite to
“ the above-mentioned Fort LEGONIER, Northerly. This

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

ably yield larger crops of red and white Clover, and other useful grafs, than this does.

On the *North-west* and *South-east* fides of the *Ohio*, below the *Great Kanharca* River, at a little diftance from it, are extensive natural meadows, or *Savannahs*. Thefe [15] meadows are from 20 to 50 miles in circuit. They have many beautiful groves of trees interfperfed, as if by art in them, and which ferve as a fhelter for the innumerable herds of *Buffaloe*, *Deer*, &c. with which they abound*.

“ country may, from a proper knowledge, be affirmed to be
“ the moft healthy, the moft pleafant, the moft commodious,
“ and moft fertile fpot on earth, known to EUROPEAN people.”

* I am obliged to a worthy Friend, and Countryman, for the following juft, and judicious obfervations. They were addreffed to the Earl of Hillborough, in the year 1770,—When Secretary of State for the North-American department.

“ No part of North-America, he fays, will require lefs
“ encouragement for the production of naval ftores, and raw
“ materials for manufactories in Europe; and for fupplying
“ the *West-India* iflands with *Lumber*, *Provizions*, &c. than
“ the country of the *Ohio*;—and for the following reafons:

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[16] Having made these Observations,—
I proceed to give a brief Account of the feveral Rivers and Creeks which fall into the River *Ohio*.

“ First, The lands are excellent, the climate temperate,
“ the native grapes, silk-worms, and mulberry trees, abound
“ every where : hemp, hops, and rye, grow spontaneously in
“ the valleys and low lands, lead, and iron ore are plenty in
“ the hills, salt Springs are innumerable ; and no Soil is bet-
“ ter adapted to the culture of Tobacco, Flax and Cotton,
“ than that of the *Ohio*.

“ Second, The country is well watered by feveral navi-
“ gable Rivers, communicating with each other ; by which,
“ and a short land carriage, the produce of the Lands of the
“ *Ohio* can, even now, (in the year 1772) “ be sent cheaper
“ to the Sea-port Town of Alexandria, on the River Poto-
“ mack in Virginia (where General Braddock’s Transports
“ landed his troops) than any kind of Merchandife, is sent
“ from Northampton to London.

“ Third, The River *Ohio* is, at *all seasons* of the year,
“ navigable with large Boats, like the *Weyl Country Barges*,
“ rowed only by four or five men ; and from the month of
“ February to April large Ships may be built on the *Ohio*,
“ and sent to *Sea* laden with Hemp, Iron, Flax, Silk, Tobacco,
“ Cotton, Pot-ath, &c.

“ Fourth, Flour, Corn, Beef, Ship-Plank, and other use-
“ ful articles, can be sent *down the Stream of Ohio* to Well-

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

[17] *Catawagy*, when raised by freshes, is passable with small Battoes, to a little Lake

“ Florida, and from thence to the West-India islands, much cheaper, and in better order, than from New York or Philadelphia, to these islands.

“ Fifth, Hemp, Tobacco, Iron, and such bulky articles may also be sent *down* the stream of the Ohio to the Sea, at least 50 per cent. *cheaper* than these articles were ever carried by a Land Carriage, of only 60 miles in Pennsylvania;—where waggonage is cheaper, than in any other part of North-America.

“ Sixth, The Expence of transporting European Manufactories from the Sea to the Ohio, will not be so much, as is now paid, and must ever be paid, to a great part of the Counties of *Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Maryland*. Whenever the *Farmers*, or Merchants of *Ohio*, shall properly understand the business of transportation, they will build Schooners, Sloops, &c. on the Ohio, suitable for the West-India, or European Markets; or, by having Black-Walnut, Cherry-tree, Oak, &c. properly sawed for foreign Markets, and formed into Rafts, in the manner, that is now done by the Settlers near the upper parts of Delaware River in Pennsylvania, and thereon flow their Hemp, Iron, Tobacco, &c. and proceed with them to New Orleans.

“ It may not, perhaps, be amiss, to observe, that large quantities of Flour are made in the distant (*western*) Counties of Pennsylvania, and sent by an expensive Land Car-

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

at its [18] head;—from thence there is a portage of 20 miles to Lake *Erie*, at the mouth of *Jadúghque*. This portage is seldom used, because *Cunawagy* has scarcely any water in it in a dry season.

Bughaloons, is not navigable; but is remarkable for extensive meadows bordering upon it.

[19] *French Creek* affords the nearest passage to the City of Philadelphia, and from thence shipped to South Carolina, and to East and West Florida, there being little, or no Wheat raised in these Provinces. The *River Ohio* seems kindly designed by nature, as the Channel through which the two *Floridas* may be supplied with Flour, not only for their own Consumption, but also for the carrying on an extensive Commerce with Jamaica and the Spanish Settlements in the Bay of Mexico. Millstones in abundance are to be obtained in the Hills near the Ohio, and the country is every where well watered with large, and constant Springs and Streams, for Grist, and other Mills.

The passage from Philadelphia to Pennácola, is seldom made in less than a Month, and sixty shillings sterling per ton, freight (consisting of sixteen barrels) is usually paid for Flour, &c. thither. Boats carrying 800, or 1000 barrels of Flour, may go in about the same time from the Ohio, (even from *Pittsburgh*) as from Philadelphia to Pennácola, and for half the above freight, the Ohio Merchants

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

fage to Lake *Eric*. It is navigable with small boats to *Le Bruf*, by a very crooked Channel; the portage thence to *Presquile*, from an adjoining Peninsula, is 15 miles. This is the usual Route from Quebec to *Ohio*.

Licking and *Lavomic* Creeks do not afford any Navigation; but there is plenty of coals, and stones for building in the Hills, which adjoin them.

Toby's Creek is deep enough for Batteaus for a considerable way up, thence by a short portage to the *West* branch of *Susquehannah*, a good communication is carried on between *Ohio* and the eastern parts of Pennsylvania.

Moghulbughitum, is passable also by flat bottom boats in the same manner as *Toby's*

“ would be able to deliver Flour, &c. there, in much better
“ order, than from Philadelphia, and without incurring the
“ damage and delay of the sea, and charges of insurance, &c.
“ as from thence to Pennsylvania.

“ This is not meer Speculation; for it is a fact, that about
“ the year 1746 there was a great scarcity of provisions at
“ New Orleans, and the French Settlements, at the Illinois,
“ small as they then were, sent thither in one winter, upwards
“ of eight hundred thousand weight of Flour.”

Creek is to *Sufquehanna*, and from thence to all the Settlements in Northumberland county, &c. in Pennsylvania.

Kijhkeminctas, is navigable in like manner as the preceding Creeks, for between 40 and 50 miles, and good portages are found between *Kijhkeminctas*, *Juniatta*, and *Potomac* Rivers.—Coal and Salt are discovered in the neighbourhood of these Rivers.

[20] *Monongahela* is a large River, and at its junction with the *Allegheny* River stands *Fort Pitt*. It is deep, and gentle, and navigable with Battoes and Barges, beyond *Red Stone* Creek, and still farther with lighter craft. At sixteen miles from its mouth, is *Youghiogeny*; This River is navigable with Batteaux or Barges to the foot of *Laurel Hill*.

Beaver Creek has water sufficient for flat bottom boats. At *Kijhkuskes* (about 16 miles up) are two branches of this Creek, which spread opposite ways; one interlocks with *French* Creek and *Cherâge*,—the other with *Muskingum* and *Cayahoga*; on this branch, about thirty-five miles above the Forks, are many *Salt-Springs*.—*Cayahoga*

is practicable with Canoes about twenty miles farther.

Muskingum is a fine gentle River, confined by high banks, which prevent its floods from overflowing the furrounding Land. It is 250 yards wide at its confluence with the *Ohio*, and navigable, without any obstructions, by large Battoes or Barges, to the three *Legs's*, and by small ones to a little Lake at its head.

[21] From thence to *Cayahoga*, (the Creek that leads to Lake *Erie*) The *Muskingum* is muddy, and not very swift, but no where obstructed with Falls or Rifts. Here are fine Uplands, extensive meadows, oak and mulberry trees fit for Ship building, and *Walnut*, *Chestnut*, and *Poplar* trees suitable for domestic services.---*Cayahoga* furnishes the best portage between *Ohio* and Lake *Erie*; at its mouth it is wide and deep enough to receive large Sloops from the Lake. It will hereafter be a place of great importance.

Muskingum in all its wide-extended branches, is furrounded by most excellent land, and abounds in Springs, and conveniences particularly adapted to settlements

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remote from *Sea Navigation*;---such as *Salt Springs, Coal, Clay and Free Stone*.— In 1748 a Coal mine opposite to *Lamen/shicola* mouth took fire, and continued burning above twelve months, but great quantities of coal still remain in it. Near the same place are excellent *Whetstones*, and about 8 miles higher up the River, is plenty of *White and Blue Clay* for *Glass works and Pottery*.

[22] *Hockhocking* is navigable with large flat bottom boats between seventy and eighty miles; it has fine meadows with high banks, which seldom overflow, and rich Uplands on its borders. *Coal*, and quarries of *Free Stone* are found about 15 miles up this Creek.

Big Kanawha falls into the *Ohio* upon its south-eastern side, and is so considerable a branch of this River, that it may be mistaken for the *Ohio* itself by persons ascending it. It is slow for ten miles, to *little broken Hills*,--the low land is very rich, and of about the same breadth (from the *Pipe Hills* to the *Falls*) as upon the *Ohio*. After going 10 miles up *Kanawha* the land is hilly, and the water a little rapid for 50

or 60 miles further to the *Falls*, yet *Batteaus* or *Barges* may be easily rowed thither. These *Falls* were formerly thought *impassable*; but late discoveries have proved, that a waggon road may be made through the mountain, which occasions the *Falls*, and that by a portage of a few miles only, a communication may be had between the waters of *Great Kanhawa* and *Ohio*, and those of *James River in Virginia*.

[23] *Tottery* lies upon the south-eastern side of the *Ohio*, and is navigable with *Batteaux* to the *Ouafoto* mountains. It is a long *River*, has few branches, and interlocks with *Red Creek*, or *Clinche's River* (a branch of the *Cuttawa*).--And has below the mountains, especially for 15 miles from its mouth, very good land. Here is a perceptible difference of Climate between the upper and this part of *Ohio*. Here the *large Reed* or *Carolina Cane* grows in plenty, even upon the Upland, and the winter is so moderate as not to destroy it. The same moderation of climate continues down *Ohio*, especially on the south-east side to the *Rapids*, and thence on both sides of that *River* to the *Mississippi*.

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Great Salt Lick Creek, is remarkable for fine land, plenty of *Buffaloes*, *Salt Springs*, *White Clay*, and *Lime Stone*. Small Boats may go to the crossing of the war Path without any impediment. The Salt Springs render the waters unfit for drinking, but the plenty of fresh springs in their vicinity, make sufficient amends for this inconvenience.

Kentucke is larger than the preceding Creek; it is surrounded with high clay [24] banks, fertile lands, and large salt Springs. Its Navigation is interrupted by shoals, but passable with small boats to the *gap*, where the *war path* goes through the *Ouajoto mountains*.

Sioto, is a large gentle River bordered with rich Flats, or Meadows. It overflows in the spring, and then spreads about half a mile, tho' when confined within its banks it is scarce a furlong wide.

If it floods early, it seldom retires within its banks in less than a month, and is not fordable frequently in less than two months.

The *Sioto*, besides having a great extent of most excellent land on both sides of the River, is furnished with *Salt*, on an eastern

branch, and *Red Bole* on *Neeunfia Skeintat*. The Stream of *Sioto* is gentle and passable with *large Battoes or Barges* for a considerable way, and with smaller boats, near 200 miles to a portage, of only four miles to *Sandusky*.

Sandusky is a considerable River abounding in level land, its Stream gentle all the way to the mouth, where it is large enough to receive *Sloops*. The *Northern Indians* cross [25] *Lake Erie* here from Island to Island, land at *Sandusky*, and go by a direct path to the lower *Shawanoë* town, and thence to the *gap of the Ouafitoto Mountain*, in their way to the *Cuttawa* country.

Little Mincami River is too small to navigate with *Batteaux*. It has much fine land and several *Salt Springs*; its high banks and gentle current prevent its much overflowing the surrounding lands in freshes.

Great Mincami, Affereniet or Rocky River, has a very stony Channel; a swift Stream, but no Falls. It has several large branches, passable with boats a great way; one extending westward towards the *Quia-ghtena* River, another towards a branch of *Mincami* River (which runs into *Lake*

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Eric) to which there is a portage, and a third has a portage to the west branch of *Sandusky*, besides *Mad Creek* where the *French* formerly established themselves. Rifting ground, here and there a little stony, which begins in the northern part of the Peninsula, between the Lakes *Eric*, *Huron* and *Michigan* and extend across little *Mincami* River below the *Forks*, and southwardly along the *Rocky River*, to Ohio.

[26] *Buffaloe River* falls into the *Ohio* on the eastern side of it, at the distance of 925 computed miles from *Fort Pitt*. It is a very considerable branch of the *Ohio*; is 200 yards wide, navigable upwards of 150 miles for *Battoes* or *Barges*, of 30 feet long, 5 feet broad, and 3 feet deep, carrying about 7 tons, and can be navigated much farther, with large canoes. The Stream is moderate. The Lands on both sides of this River are of a most luxuriant quality, for the production of *Hemp*, *Flax*, *Wheat*, *Tobacco*, &c. They are covered with a great variety of lofty, and useful timber; as *Oak*, *Hickory*, *Mulberry*, *Elm*, &c. Several persons who have ascended this River, say, that *Salt Springs*, *Coal*, *Lime* and *Free*

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Stonè, &c. are to be found in a variety of places.

The *Wabash*, is a beautiful River, with high and upright banks, less subject to overflow, than any other River (*the Ohio excepted*) in this part of *America*. It discharges itself into the *Ohio*, one thousand and twenty two miles below *Fort Pitt*, in latitude $37^{\circ} 41'$.—at its mouth, it is 270 yards wide; Is navigable to *Ouiatanon* [27] (412 miles) in the Spring, Summer, and Autumn, with *Battoes* or *Barges*, drawing about three feet water. From thence, on account of a rocky bottom, and shoal water, large canoes are chiefly employed, except when the River is swelled with *Rains*, at which time, it may be ascended with boats, such as I have just described, (197 miles further) to the *Miami* carrying-place, which is nine miles from the *Miami* village, and this is situated on a River of the same name, that runs into the south-west part of *Lake Erie*.—The Stream of the *Wabash*, is generally gentle to *Fort Ouiatanon*, and no where obstructed with *Falls*, but is by several *Rapids*, both above and below that *Fort*, some of which are

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pretty considerable. There is also a part of the River for about three miles, and 30 miles from the *carrying-place*, where the Channel is so narrow, that it is necessary to make use of setting poles, instead of oars. The land on this River is remarkably fertile, and several parts of it are natural meadows, of great extent, covered with fine long grass.—The timber is large, and high, and in such variety, that almost all the different kinds growing upon the *Ohio*, and its branches (but with a greater proportion of black and white mulberry-trees) may be found here.—A silver mine has been discovered about 28 miles above *Ouiatanon*, on the northern side of the *Wabash*, and probably others may be found hereafter. The *Wabash* abounds with Salt Springs, and any quantity of salt may be made from them, in the manner now done at the *Saline* in the *Illinois* country:—the hills are replenished with the best coal, and there is plenty of *Lime* and *Free Stone*, *Blue*, *Yellow* and *White Clay*, for *Glass Works* and *Pottery*. Two French settlements are established on the *Wabash*, called *Post Vincient* and *Ouiatanon*; the first is 150 miles, and

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the other 262 miles from its mouth. The former is on the eastern side of the River, and consists of 60 settlers and their families. They raise Indian Corn,---Wheat; and Tobacco of an extraordinary good quality;---superior, it is said, to that produced in *Virginia*. They have a fine breed of horses (brought originally by the *Indians* from the *Spanish* settlements on the western side of the River *Mississippi*) and large [29] flocks of Swine, and Black Cattle. The settlers deal with the natives for Furs and Deer skins, to the amount of about 5000 l. annually. Hemp of good texture grows spontaneously in the low lands of the *Wabash*, as do Grapes in the greatest abundance, having a black, *thin* skin, and of which the inhabitants in the Autumn, make a sufficient quantity (for their own consumption) of *well-tasted Red-Wine*. Hops large and good, are found in many places, and the lands are particularly adapted to the culture of Rice. All European fruits;--- Apples, Peaches, Pears, Cherrys, Currents, Gooseberrys, Melons, &c. thrive well, both here, and in the country bordering on the River *Ohio*.

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Ouiatanou is a small stockaded fort on the western side of the *Wabash*, in which about a dozen families reside. The neighbouring Indians are the *Kickapoos*, *Musquitous*, *Pyaukijhazes*, and a principal part of the *Ouiatanous*. The whole of these tribes consists, it is supposed, of about one thousand warriors. The fertility of soil, and diversity of timber in this country, are the same as in the vicinity of *Post Vincient*. [30] The annual amount of Skins and Furs, obtained at *Ouiatanou* is about 8000 l. By the River *Wabash*, the inhabitants of *Detroit* move to the southern parts of *Ohio*, and the *Illinois* country. Their rout is by the *Miami River* to a carrying-place, which, as before stated, is nine miles to the *Wabash*, when this River is raised with Freshes; but at other seasons, the distance is from 18 to 30 miles including the portage. The whole of the latter is through a level country. Carts are usually employed in transporting boats and merchandisè, from the *Miami* to the *Wabash* River.

The *Shawcanoe River* empties itself on the eastern side of *Ohio*, about 95 miles southwardly of the *Wabash* River. It is 250

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yards wide at its mouth, has been navigated 180 miles in Battoes of the construction of those mentioned in the preceding article, and from the depth of water, at that distance from its mouth, it is presumed, it may be navigated much further. The soil and timber of the lands, upon this River, are exactly the same as those upon *Buffaloe* River.

[31] *The Cherokee River* discharges itself into the *Ohio* on the same side, that the *Shawano* River does, that is, --- 13 miles below or southerly of it, and 11 miles above, or northerly of the place where *Fort Mifflin* formerly stood, and 57 miles from the confluence of the *Ohio* with the River *Mississippi*.---The *Cherokee* River has been navigated 900 miles from its mouth. At the distance of 220 miles from thence, it widens from 400 yards (its general width) to between two and three miles, and continues this breadth for near thirty miles farther. The whole of this distance, is called *the Muscle Shoals*. Here the Channel is obstructed with a number of Islands, formed by trees and drifted wood, brought hither, at different seasons of the year, in freshes and

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floods. In passing these islands, the middle of the widest intermediate water, is to be navigated, as there it is deepest. From the mouth of the *Cherokee River* to *Muscle Shoals* the current is moderate, and both the high and low lands are rich, and abundantly covered with Oaks, Walnut, Sugar-trees, Hickory, &c.—About 200 miles above these shoals, is, what is called, the [32] *Whirl*, or *Suck*, occasioned, I imagine, by the high mountain, which there confines the River (supposed to be the *Laurel* mountain.) The *Whirl*, or *Suck* continues rapid for about three miles. Its width about 50 yards. Ascending the *Cherokee River*, and at about 100 miles from the *Suck*, and upon the south eastern side of that River, is *Highcofee River*. Vast tracts of level and rich land border on this River; but at a small distance from it, the country is much broken, and some parts of it produce only *Pine Trees*. Forty miles higher up the *Cherokee River* on the north western side, is *Clinche's River*. It is 150 yards wide, and about 50 miles up it several families are settled. From *Clinche's* to *Tennessee River* is 100 miles. It comes in on

the eastern side, and is 250 yards wide. About 10 miles up this River, is a *Cherokee* town, called *Chota*, and further up this branch, are several other *Indian* towns, possessed by Indians, called, *the over hill Cherokees*. The navigation of this branch, is much interrupted by rocks, as is also the River, called, *French Broad*, which comes into the *Cherokee River* 50 miles above the [33] *Tennessee*, and on the same side. 150 miles above *French Broad* is *Long Island* (three miles in length) and from thence to the source of the *Cherokee River* is 60 miles, and the whole distance is so rocky, as to be scarcely navigable with a canoe.

By the *Cherokee River*, the emigrants from the frontier counties of *Virginia*, and *North Carolina*, pass to the settlements in *West Florida*, upon the River *Mississippi*. They embark at *Long Island*.

I now proceed to give a Description of that part of my Map called the *Illinois country*, lying between the *Mississippi* westerly, the *Illinois River* northerly, the *Wabash* easterly, and the *Ohio* southerly.

The land at the confluence, or *Fork* of the Rivers *Mississippi* and *Ohio*, is above 20

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feet higher than the common surface of these Rivers; yet so considerable are the *Spring* floods, that it is generally overflowed for about a week, as are the lands for several miles back in the country.—The soil at the *Fork* is composed of Mud, Earth and Sand, accumulated from the *Ohio* and *Mississippi* Rivers. It is exceedingly fertile, and in its natural state, yields *Hemp*, *Pea-Vines*, *Grass*, &c. and a great variety of trees, and in particular, the *Aspen Tree* of an unusual height and thickness.

For 25 miles up the *Mississippi* (from the *Ohio*) the country is rich, level and well timbered;—and then several gentle rising grounds appear, which gradually diminish at the distance of between four and five miles eastward from the River. From thence to the *Kaskaskias* River is 65 miles. The country is a mixture of hills and valleys; some of the former are rocky and steep;—but they, as well as the valleys, are shaded with fine Oaks, Hickory, Walnut, Ash, and Mulberry trees, &c. Some of the high grounds afford most pleasant situations for settlements. Their elevated, and airy positions, together with

the great luxuriance of the Soil, every where yielding plenty of Grains, and useful plants, promise health, and ample returns to industrious settlers.

Many quarries of *Lime*, *Free stone* and *Marble* have been discovered in this part of the country.

[35] Several Creeks, and Rivers fall into the *Mississippi*, in the above distance (of 65 miles) but no remarkable ones, except the Rivers a *Vase* and *Kaskaskias*;—the former is navigable for Batoes about 60, and the latter for about 130 miles;—both these Rivers run through a rich country, abounding in extensive, natural meadows, and numberless herds of Buffaloe, Deer, &c.

The high grounds, just mentioned, continue along the eastern side of the *Kaskaskias* River at a small distance from it, for the space of five miles and a half, to the *Kaskaskias* village; then they incline more towards that River, and run nearly parallel with the eastern bank of the *Mississippi*, at the distance of about three miles in some parts, and four miles in other parts from it. These principally com-

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posed of Lime and Free Stone, and are from 100 to 130 feet high, divided in several places by deep cavities, through which many small rivulets pass before they fall into the *Mississippi*. The sides of these hills, fronting this River, are in many places perpendicular,—and appear like solid pieces of Stone Masonry, of various colours, figures and sizes.

The low land between the Hills and the *Mississippi*, begins on the north side of the *Kaskaskias* River, and continues for three miles above the River *Missouri*, where a high ridge terminates it, and forms the eastern bank of the *Mississippi*.—This interval land is level, has few trees, and is of a very rich soil, yielding shrubs and most fragrant flowers, which added to the number and extent of meadows and ponds dispersed thro' this charming valley, render it exceedingly beautiful and agreeable.

In this vale stand the following villages, viz. *Kaskaskias*, which, as already mentioned, is five miles and a half up a River of the same name, running northerly and southerly.—This village contains 80 houses, many of them well built; several of stone,

with gardens, and large lotts adjoining. It consists of about 500 white inhabitants, and between four and five hundred negroes. The former have large stocks of black Cattle, Swine, &c.

[37] Three miles northerly of *Kaskaskias*, is a village of *Illinois Indians* (of the *Kaskaskias* tribe) containing about 210 persons and 60 warriors. They were formerly brave and warlike, but are degenerated into a drunken, and debauched tribe, and so indolent, as scarcely to procure a sufficiency of Skins and Furs to barter for cloathing.

Nine miles further northward, than the last mentioned village, is another, called *La prairie du Rocher*, or (the *Rock meadows*.) It consists of 100 white inhabitants, and 80 negroes.

Three miles northerly of this place, on the banks of the *Mississippi* stood *Fort Chartres*. It was abandoned in the year 1772, as it was rendered untenable by the constant washings of the River *Mississippi* in high floods.—The village of *Fort Chartres*, a little southward of the Fort,—contained

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to few inhabitants, as not to deserve my notice.

One mile higher up the *Mississippi* than *Fort Chartres*, is a village settled by 170 warriors of the *Piorias* and *Mitchigamias* [38] (two other tribes of the *Illinois Indians*.) They are as idle and debauched, as the tribe of *Kaskaskias*, which I have just described.

Four miles higher than the preceding village, is *St. Philip's*. It was formerly inhabited by about a dozen families, but at present, is possessed only by two or three.—The others have retired to the western side of the *Mississippi*.

Forty five miles further northwards, than *St. Philip's* (and one mile up a small River, on the southern side of it) stands the village of *Cahokia*. It has 50 houses, many of them well built, and 300 inhabitants, possessing 80 negroes, and large stocks of black Cattle, Swine, &c.

Four miles above *Cahokia*, on the western, or *Spanish* side of the *Mississippi*, stands the village of *St. Louis*, on a high piece of ground. It is the most healthy and pleasurable situation of any known in this

part of the country. Here the *Spanijh* Commandant, and the principal *Indian* Traders reside; who by conciliating the affections of the natives, have drawn all [39] the *Indian* trade of the *Mifouri*; ---part of that of the *Miffiffippi* (northwards) and of the tribes of *Indians* residing near the *Ouifcoufing*. and *Illinois Rivers*. to this village. In *St. Louis* are 120 houfes, moftly built of ftone. They are large and commodious. This village has 800 inhabitants, chiefly *French*; —fome of them have had a liberal education, are polite, and hofpitable. They have about 150 negroes, and large ftocks of black Cattle, &c.

Twelve miles below, or fouterly of *Fort Chartres*, on the *Weftern* bank of the *Miffiffippi*, and nearly oppofite to the village of *Kafkaskias*, is the village of *St. Genevieve* or *Miffive*. It contains upwards of 100 houfes, and 460 inhabitants, befides Negroes. This and *St. Louis* are all the villages that are upon the western, or *Spanijh* fide of the *Miffiffippi*.

Four miles below *St. Genevieve* (on the western bank of the *Miffiffippi*) at the mouth of a Creek, is a *Hamlet*, called *the Saline*.

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Here all the falt is made, which is used in the *Illinois* country, from a falt spring, [40] that is at this place*. The *Ridge* which forms the eastern bank of the *Mississippi*, above the *Missouri* River continues northerly to the *Illinois* River, and then directs its course along the eastern side of that River, for about 220 miles, when it declines in gentle slopes, and ends in extensive rich savannahs. On the top of this *Ridge*, at the mouth of the *Illinois* River, is an agreeable and commanding situation, for a fort, and though the *Ridge* is high and steep (about 130 feet high) and rather difficult to ascend;—yet when ascended,—it affords

* In the several villages on, and near the *Mississippi*, which I have just described, (and which are delineated in the annexed plan) there were in the year 1771, twelve hundred and seventy three sensible men. To wit,——

On the Eastern side of the *Mississippi*,

French	300
Negroes	230

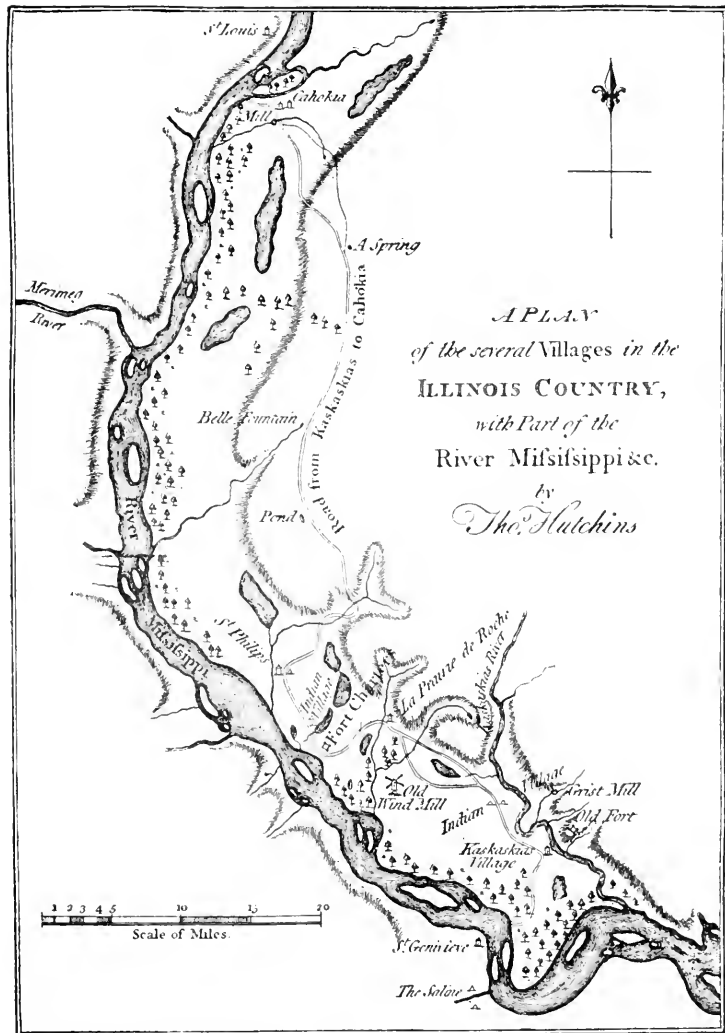
On the Western side of the *Mississippi*,

At St. Genevieve,	French	208
	Negroes	80
At St. Louis,	French	415
	Negroes	40

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a most delightful prospect.—The *Mississippi* [41] is distinctly seen from its summit for more than twenty miles,—as are the beautiful meanderings of the *Illinois* River, for many leagues;—next a level, fruitful meadow presents itself, of at least one hundred miles in circuit on the western side of the *Mississippi*, watered by several lakes, and shaded by small groves or copses of trees, scattered in different parts of it, and then the eye, with rapture, surveys, as well the high lands bordering upon the River *Missouri*, as those at a greater distance up the *Mississippi*.—In fine, this charming ridge is covered with excellent Grass, large Oak, Walnut trees, &c. and at the distance of about nine miles from the *Mississippi*, up the *Illinois* River, are seen many large savannahs, or meadows abounding in Buffalo, Deer, &c.

In ascending the *Mississippi*, *Cape au Gres*, particularly attracted my attention.—It is about 8 leagues above the *Illinois* River, on the eastern side of the *Mississippi*, and continues above five leagues on that River. There is a gradual descent back to delightful meadows, and to beautiful and fertile up-



A PLAN
of the several Villages in the
ILLINOIS COUNTRY,
with Part of the
River Mississipp &c.
by
The Hutchins

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lands, water'd by several Rivulets, which fall [42] into the *Illinois* River between 30 and 40 miles from its entrance into the *Mississippi*, and into the latter at *Cape au Gres*. The distance from the *Mississippi* to the River *Illinois* across the country, is lessened or increased, according to the windings of the former River;—the smallest distance is at *Cape au Gres*, and there it is between four and five miles. The lands in this intermediate space between the above two Rivers are rich, almost beyond parallel,—covered with large Oaks, Walnut, &c. and not a stone is to be seen, except upon the sides of the River.—It is even acknowledged by the French inhabitants, that if settlements were only begun at *Cape au Gres*,—those upon the *Spanish* side of the *Mississippi* would be abandoned, as the former would excite a constant succession of settlers, and intercept all the trade of the upper *Mississippi*.

The *Illinois* River, furnishes a communication with Lake *Michigan*, by the *Chicago* River, and by two portages between the latter and the *Illinois* River; the longest of which does not exceed four miles.

[43] The *Illinois* country is in general of a superior soil to any other part of North America that I have seen. It produces fine Oak, Hickory, Cedar, Mulberry trees, &c. some *Dying* roots and medicinal Plants;--- Hops, and excellent wild Grapes, and, in the year 1769, one hundred and ten hogheads of well tasted and strong Wine, were made by the *French* Settlers, from these Grapes,-- A large quantity of Sugar is also annually made from the juice of the Maple tree; and as the Mulberry trees are large and numerous, I presume the making of *Silk* will employ the attention and industry of the settlers, when the country is more fully inhabited than it is at present, and especially as the winters are much more moderate, and favourable for the breed of Silk Worms, than they are in many of the sea coast provinces.—*Indigo* may likewise be successfully cultivated—(but not more than two cuttings in a year;) *Wheat*, *Peas*, and *Indian Corn* thrive well, as does every sort of Grain and Pulse, that is produced in any of the old Colonies. Great quantities of Tobacco are also yearly raised by the inhabitants of the *Illinois*, both for their own consumption,

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[44] and that of the Indians;—but little has hitherto been exported to *Europe*. *Hemp* grows spontaneously, and is of a good texture;---Its common height is 10 feet, and its thickness, three inches (the latter reckoned within about a foot of the root) and with little labour any quantity may be cultivated. *Flax Seed* has hitherto been only raised in small quantities. There has however been enough produced to shew, that it may be sown to the greatest advantage. Apples, Pears, Peaches, and all other European fruits succeed admirably. Iron, Copper, and Lead Mines, as also Salt Springs have been discovered in different parts of this territory. The two latter are worked on the *Spanish* side of the *Mississippi*, with considerable advantage to their owners. There is plenty of Fish in the Rivers, particularly Cat, Carp, and Perch, of an uncommon size.---*Savannahs*, or natural meadows, are both numerous and extensive; yielding excellent Grass, and feeding great herds of *Buffaloe*, *Deer*, &c.-- Ducks, Teal, Geese, Swans, Cranes, Pelicans, Turkeys, Pheasants, Partridges, &c. [45] such as are seen in the Sea coast Colo-

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nies, are in the greatest variety and abundance.---In short, every thing, that a reasonable mind can desire, is to be found, or may, with little pains, be produced here*.

Niagara Post is a most important post. It secures a greater number of communications, through a larger country, than probably any other pass in *interior* America;---It stands at the entrance of a straight, by which *Lake Ontario*, is joined to *Lake Erie*, and the latter is connected with the three great Lakes *Huron*, *Michigan*, and *Superior*. About nine miles above *Fort Niagara*, the *carrying* place begins. It is occasioned by the stupendous cataract of that name. The quantity of water which tumbles over this *Fall* is unparalleled in *America*;---its height, is not less than 137 feet. This *Fall* would interrupt the communication between the *Lakes Ontario* and *Erie*; if a road was not made up the [46] hilly country; that borders upon the *Straight*. This road extends to a small post

* See the annexed Plan for a description of the Illinois country, &c. and see Appendix, No. 1 for a farther account thereof.

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eighteen miles from fort *Niagara*. *Here* the traveller embarks in a battoe or canoe, and proceeds eighteen miles to a small fort at *Lake Erie*. It may be proper also to add, that at the end of the first two miles, in the last mentioned distance of 18 miles, the *Stream* of the River is divided by a large island, above nine miles in length; and at the upper end of it, about a mile from *Lake Erie*, are three or four islands, not far from each other;—these islands, by interrupting and confining the waters discharged from the Lake, greatly increase the rapidity of the Stream;—which indeed is so violent, that the stiffest gale is scarcely sufficient to enable a large vessel to stem it,--but it is successfully resisted in small battoes or canoes, that are rowed near the shore.

Lake Erie, is about 225 miles in length, and upon a medium about 40 miles in breadth. It affords a good navigation for shipping of *any* burthen. The coast on both sides of the Lake, is generally favourable for the passage of battoes and canoes. [47] Its banks in many places have a flat sandy shore, particularly to the eastward of the *Peninsula*, called *Long Point*, which

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

extends into the Lake, in a fourth eastern direction for upwards of 18 miles, and is not more than five miles wide in the broadest part, but the *Isthmus*, by which it joins the continent, is scarcely 200 yards wide. The *Peninsula* is composed of Sand, and is very convenient to haul boats out of the surf upon, (as is also almost every other part of the shore) when the Lake is too rough for rowing or sailing; yet there are some places, where, in boisterous weather (on account of their great perpendicular height) it would be dangerous to approach, and impossible to land: most of these places are marked in my Map with the letter X.

Lake Erie has a great variety of fine fish, such as *Sturgeon*, *Eel*, *White Fish*, *Trout*, *Perch*, &c.

The country *northward* of this Lake, is in many parts swelled with moderate hills, but no high mountains. The climate is temperate, and the air healthful. The lands are well timbered, (but not generally so rich, as those upon the fourth-
[48] ern side of the lake) and for a considerable distance from it, and for several miles east-

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

ward of *Cuyahoga* River, they appear quite level, and extremely fertile; and except where extensive savannahs, or natural meadows intervene, are covered with large Oaks, Walnut, Ash, Hickory, Mulberry, Sassafras, &c. &c. and produce a great variety of Shrubs and Medicinal roots. — Here also is great plenty of *Buffalo*, *Deer*, *Turkies*, *Partridges*, &c.

Fort Detroit is of an oblong figure, built with stockades, and advantageously situated, with one entire side commanding the river, called *Detroit*. This fort is near a mile in circumference, and encloses about one hundred houses, built in a regular manner, with parallel streets, crossing each other at right angles. Its situation is delightful, and in the centre of a pleasant, fruitful country.

The straight *St. Clair* (commonly called the *Detroit* River) is at its entrance more than three miles wide, but in ascending it, its width perceptibly diminishes, so that opposite to the Fort, (which is 18 [49] miles from Lake *Eric*) it does not exceed half a mile in width. From thence to Lake *St. Clair*, it widens to more than a

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

mile. The Channel of the strait is gentle, and wide, and deep enough for shipping of great burthen, although it is incommoded by several iflands; one of which is more than seven miles in length. These iflands are of a fertile foil, and from their situation afford a very agreeable appearance. For eight miles below, and the same distance above Fort *Detroit*, on both sides of the River, the country is divided into regular and well cultivated plantations, and from the contiguity of the farmers houses to each other, they appear as two long extended villages. The inhabitants, who are mostly *French*, are about 2000 in number; 500 of whom are as good marksmen, and as well accustomed to the woods, as the *Indian* natives themselves. They raise large stocks of black cattle, and great quantities of Corn, which they grind by wind-mills, and manufacture into excellent Flour.---The chief trade of *Detroit* consists in a barter of coarse Euro-
[50] pean goods with the natives for Furs, Deer-skins, Tallow, &c. &c.

The rout from Lake *St. Clair* to Lake *Huron*, is up a strait or River, about

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

400 yards wide. This river derives itself from *Lake Heron*, and at the distance of 33 miles loses itself in *Lake St. Clair*. It is in general rapid, but particularly so near its source;—its channel, and also that of *Lake St. Clair*, are sufficiently deep for shipping of very considerable burthen. This strait has several mouths, and the lands lying between them are fine meadows. The country on both sides of it, for 15 miles, has a very level appearance, but from thence to *Lake Huron*, it is in many places broken, and covered with white Pines, Oaks, Maple, Birch and Beech.

[51] APPENDIX, No. I.

Mr. PATRICK KENNEDY'S Journal of an Expedition undertaken by himself and several Coureurs de Bois in the year 1773,--from Kaskaskias Village in the Illinois Country, to the Head Waters of the Illinois River.*

JULY 23, 1773. “ We fet out from
 “ *Kaskaskias* in fearch of a Copper
 “ mine, and on the 31st reached the *Illinois*
 “ River;—it is 84 miles from *Kaskaskias*.
 “ The fame day we entered the *Illinois Ri-*
 “ ver, which is 18 miles above that of the
 “ *Miffouri*. The water was fo low, and
 “ the fides of the river fo full of
 “ weeds, that our progrefs was much
 “ interrupted, being obliged to row our
 “ boat in the deep water, and ftrong
 “ current. The chain of rocks, and high
 “ hills which begin at the *Piafus* about
 “ three miles above the *Miffouri*, extend
 “ to the mouth of the *Illinois River*, and
 “ continue along the fouth-eastern fide of
 “ the fame in an east-north east courfe.--

* N. B. This *Journal* was never printed before.

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

“ [52] About eighteen miles up this river,
“ on the eastern side, is a little river called
“ by the Natives *Macopin* or *White Potato*
“ River;---it is 20 yards wide, and navi-
“ gable nine miles to the hills. The
“ shore is low on both sides;---the tim-
“ ber, *Bois Counu*, or *Paccan*, *Maple*, *Ash*,
“ *Button Wood*, &c.—The course of the *Il-*
“ *linois* River here, is N. N. E; the land is
“ well timbered, and covered with high
“ weeds. There are fine meadows at a
“ little distance from the River; the banks
“ of which do not crumble away as those
“ of the *Mississippi* do: we passed numbers
“ of Islands, some of them between nine
“ and twelve miles in length, and three
“ miles in breadth.—The general width
“ of the River in this day’s journey, was
“ about 400 yards.

“ August 1, about 12 o’clock, we stop-
“ ped at the *Piorias* wintering ground.
“ About a quarter of a mile from the Ri-
“ ver, on the eastern side of it, is a mea-
“ dow of many miles long, and five or six
“ miles broad. In this meadow are many
“ small lakes, communicating with each
“ other, and by which there are passages

“ [53] for small boats or canoes, and one in
 “ particular, leads to the *Illinois* River.
 “ The timber in general very tall Oaks.
 “ We met with some beautiful islands in
 “ this part of the River (48 miles from
 “ the *Mississippi*) and great plenty of Buffa-
 “ loe and Deer.

“ August 2, At one o'clock we passed
 “ an island called *Pierre*.—A *Fleche*, or ar-
 “ row stone is gotten by the Indians from
 “ a high hill on the western side of the
 “ River, near the above island;—with this
 “ stone, the natives make their gun flints,
 “ and point their arrows. Half a league
 “ above this island, on the Eastern side of
 “ it, the meadows border on the River,
 “ and continue several miles; the land is
 “ remarkably rich, and well watered with
 “ small Rivulets from the neighbouring
 “ hills. The banks of the River are high,
 “ the water clear, and at the bottom of
 “ the River are white Marl and Sand.

“ August 3, Passed the *Minne* River. It
 “ comes into the *Illinois* River on the north-
 “ western side of it, 120 miles from the
 “ *Mississippi*. It is 50 yards wide and very
 “ rapid.

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

[54] “ August 4. Here the land on both
“ sides of the *Illinois* River is low, but rises
“ gradually.—The *Prairie*, or meadow
“ ground on the eastern side, is at *left*
“ twenty *miles wide*; it is fine land for
“ tillage, or for *grazing* cattle, and is well
“ watered with a number of springs.
“ About 12 o’clock we passed the River
“ *Sagamond*, 135 miles from the *Mississippi*.
“ It is a River 100 yards wide, and navi-
“ gable for small boats or canoes up-
“ wards of 180 miles, and about sun-
“ set, we passed the River *Demi-Quian*.
“ It comes in on the western side of the
“ *Illinois* River;—(165 miles from the
“ *Mississippi*;)—is 50 yards wide, and navi-
“ gable 120 miles. We encamped on
“ the south-eastern side of the *Illinois* river,
“ opposite to a very large savannah, be-
“ longing to, and called, the *Demi-Quian*
“ swamp. The lands on the south-eastern
“ side are high and thinly timbered; ---
“ but at the place of our encampment are
“ fine meadows, extending farther than
“ the eye can reach, and affording a de-
“ lightful prospect.---The low lands on
“ the western side of the *Illinois* River,

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

“ extend so far back from it, that no
“ [55] high grounds can be seen. Here is
“ plenty of Buffaloe, Deer, Elk, Tur-
“ keys, &c.

“ August 5, It rained all day, which
“ detained us till the evening, when we
“ embarked, and rowed till dark; in our
“ way we passed the Lake *Demi-Quian*,
“ 200 yards west from the river of that
“ name; it is of a *circular figure*, six miles
“ across, and discharges itself by a small
“ passage, four feet deep into the *Illinois*
“ River. This Lake is 171 miles from
“ the *Mississippi*. The general course of
“ the *Illinois* River varies very little; it
“ rather however inclines to the eastward.
“ The lands are much the same as before
“ described, only the *Prairies* (Meadows)
“ extend further from the river. By our
“ reckoning, we are 177 miles from the
“ *Mississippi*.

“ August 6, Set out early, and at 11
“ o’clock we passed the *Sefene-Quian* river,
“ it is on the western side of the *Illinois*
“ river; is 40 yards wide, and navigable 60
“ miles; the land bordering on this river is
“ very good. — About four o’clock we passed

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

“ the river *De la March*, (on the western
“ [56] side also of the *Illinois* river;) it is
“ 30 yards wide, and navigable about eight
“ or nine miles only. Though the *De la*
“ *March* is not so long as the *Seseme-Quian*,
“ yet it is much handsomer. These rivers
“ are about nine miles distant from each
“ other. Here the land begins to rise grad-
“ ually on the western bank. At sun-set
“ we passed a river called *Michilimackinac*.
“ It is on the south-eastern side of the *Ill-*
“ *inois* River; is 50 yards wide, navigable
“ for about 90 miles, and has between 30
“ and 40 small islands at its mouth; which
“ at a distance appear like a small village.
“ On the banks of this river is plenty of
“ good timber, viz. *Red and white Cedar*,
“ *Pine, Maple, Walnut, &c.* and finding
“ some pieces of coal, I was induced
“ to walk up the river a few miles, tho’
“ not far enough, to reach a coal mine. In
“ many places I also found clinkers, which
“ inclined me to think that a coal mine, not
“ far distant, was on fire, and I have since
“ heard, there was.--The land is high on the
“ eastern bank of the river, but on the
“ western are large plains or meadows, ex-

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

“ tending as far as can be seen, covered
“ [57] with fine grass. This river is 195
“ miles from the *Mississippi*.

“ August 7, The morning being very
“ foggy, and the River overgrown with
“ weeds along its sides, we could make
“ but little way. About 12 o'clock we
“ got to the old *Pioria Fort* and village on
“ the western shore of the River, and at
“ the southern end of a lake called the *Il-*
“ *linois Lake*; which is 19 miles and a half
“ in length, and three miles in breadth.
“ It has no Rocks, Shoals or perceivable
“ Current. We found the stockades of
“ this *Pioria Fort* destroyed by fire, but the
“ houses standing. The summit on which
“ the Fort stood, commands a fine prof-
“ spect of the country to the eastward, and
“ up the lake to the point, where the Ri-
“ ver comes in at the north end;— to the
“ westward are large meadows. In the lake
“ is great plenty of fish, and in particu-
“ lar, *Sturgeon*, and *Picannau*. On the
“ eastern side of the lake, about the mid-
“ dle of it, the chain of Rocks, that ex-
“ tends from the back of *Kaskaskias*, to
“ [58] *Cahokia*, *Piasa*, the mouth of the

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

“ *Illinois* River, &c terminates. — The coun-
“ try to the westward, is low and very le-
“ vel, covered with Grass, Weeds,
“ Flaggs, &c. — Here is abundance of
“ Cherry, Plumb and other fruit trees.—
“ This lake is 210 miles from the *Miffi-*
“ *ssippi*.

“ August 8, The wind being fair we
“ made a fail of our tent, and reached the
“ upper end of the lake by sun-set; and
“ the wind continuing fair we ascended
“ the River, and about 4 o'clock pass'd
“ *Crozes Meadows River*, which comes
“ from the eastward, and over against
“ it, on the west side, are the mea-
“ dows just mentioned, 240 miles from
“ the *Miffissippi*. This River is twenty
“ yards wide, and navigable between
“ 15 and 18 miles. The land on both
“ sides of the *Illinois* River, for 27, or 30
“ miles above the lake, is generally low
“ and full of Swamps, some a mile wide,
“ bordered with fine meadows, and in
“ some places, the high land comes to
“ the River in points, or narrow necks.

[59] “ August 9, At 10 o'clock, we pass'd
“ the *Riviere de l'Isle de Pluye*, or *Rainy*

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

“ *Island River*, on the fourth-east side it is
“ 15 yards wide, and navigable nine miles
“ to the rocks.—After passing this River,
“ which is 255 miles from the *Mississippi*,
“ we found the water very shallow, and
“ it was with difficulty that we got for-
“ ward, though we employed seven oars,
“ and our boat drew only three feet water.
“ The grass which grows in the interval
“ or meadow ground, between the *Illinois*
“ River and the *Rocks*, is finer than any
“ we have seen, and is thicker and higher
“ and more clear from weeds, than in any
“ of the meadows about *Kaskaskias* or Fort
“ *Chartres*. The timber is generally *Birch*,
“ *Button*, and *Paccan*.—The wind conti-
“ nuing fair, about 10 o'clock we passed
“ the *Vermillion River*, 267 miles from
“ the *Mississippi*. It is 30 yards wide, but
“ so rocky as not to be navigable.—At the
“ distance of a mile further, we arrived
“ at the little rocks, which are 60 miles
“ from the *Forks*, and 270 miles from the
“ [60] *Mississippi*.” The water being very
“ low, We could get no further with our
“ boat, and therefore we proceeded by land
“ to the *Forks*. We set out about two

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

“ o'clock on the western side of the
“ River, but the grass and weeds were
“ so high, that we could make but
“ little way.

“ August 10. We crossed the high
“ land, and at ten o'clock we came to
“ the *Fox River* (or a branch of it)
“ after walking twenty-four miles. It
“ falls into the *Illinois River*, thirty miles
“ beyond the place where we left our
“ boat.—The *Fox River* is 25 yards wide,
“ and has about five feet water; its course
“ is from the westward by many windings
“ through large meadows. At three miles
“ distance, after crossing this river, we
“ fell in with the *Illinois River* again, and
“ kept along its bank; here we found a
“ path. About six o'clock we arrived,
“ after walking about 12 miles, at an old
“ encampment, fifteen miles from the
“ *Fork*. The land is stoney, and the mea-
“ dows not so good as some which we for-
“ [61] merly passed;—from hence we went
“ to an island, where several *French* traders
“ were encamp'd, but we could get no intel-
“ ligence from them about the *copper mine*
“ which we had set out in search of. At

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

“ this island we hired one of the *French*
“ hunters to conduct us in a canoe to our
“ boat.

“ August 11, We set off about three
“ o'clock, and at night got within nine
“ miles of our boat. We computed it to
“ be 45 miles from the island we last de-
“ parted from, to the place where we left
“ our boat.

“ August 12, We embarked early, and
“ proceeded three miles down the *Illinois*
“ River.---On the north-western side of
“ this river is a coal *mine*, that extends
“ for half a mile along the middle of the
“ bank of the river, which is high. ---
“ On the eastern side, about half a mile
“ from it, and about the same distance be-
“ low the coal mine, are two salt ponds,
“ 100 yards in circumference, and several
“ feet in depth; the water is stagnant, and
“ of a yellowish colour; but the *French*,
“ [62] and natives make good salt from it.
“ We tasted the water, and thought it saltier
“ than that which the French make salt
“ from, at the *saline* near *St. Genevieve*.
“ At nine o'clock we arrived at our boat.
“ From the island, where we found the

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

“ *French traders*, and from whence we em-
“ barked in a canoe to go to our boat,
“ there is a considerable descent and *Ra-*
“ *pid* all the way. Here it is, that the
“ *French* fettlers cut their mill stones.---
“ The land along the banks of the river is
“ much better than what we met with,
“ when we crossed the country on the 10th
“ of this month. On the high lands, and
“ particularly those on the south-eastern
“ side, there is abundance of red and white
“ Cedar, Pine trees, &c.—We embarked
“ about two o’clock, and proceeded till
“ nine at night.

“ August 13, We lay by half this day,
“ on account of wet weather.

“ August 14, Embarked early, and af-
“ ter crossing the *Illinois* lake arrived late
“ in the evening, at the *Pioria Fort*.

“ August 15, Rowed very constantly
“ [63] all day, and arrived at the *Mine Ri-*
“ *ver* in the evening.---Here I met with Mr.
“ *Janifte*, a *French* gentleman, and pre-
“ vailed on him to accompany me, in an
“ attempt up this River, to discover the
“ *Copper Mine*.

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

“ August 16, Embarked early, and af-
“ cended the *Mine* River in a small canoe,
“ about 6 miles, but could get no further,
“ as the river was quite dry a little higher
“ up. It runs the above distance, through
“ very high grounds, is rocky and very
“ crooked; the banks of the river are much
“ broken, and the passage choaked with
“ timber; ---- Mr. *Jaucfte* says, that
“ the current is so strong in floods,
“ nothing can resist it. The bottom
“ is sand, green in some places, and
“ red in others; it is said, that there
“ is an allum hill on this river; ----
“ As I thought that it was impossible
“ to get to the *mine* by land at this
“ season of the year, on account of the
“ rocky mountains, weeds, briars, &c.
“ I determined to return to *Kafkaskias*,
“ and accordingly we went back to our
“ [64] boat, embarked about one o'clock,
“ and continued rowing day and night un-
“ til 12 o'clock the 18th, when we entered
“ the river *Mississippi* on our way to *Kaf-*
“ *kaskias* village.”

A
 Table of Distances,
 between
FORT PITT,
 and the Mouth
 of the
RIVER OHIO

Fort Pitt

Logs Town 18 $\frac{1}{2}$

Big Beaver Creek 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 29 $\frac{1}{2}$

Little Beaver Creek 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ 42 $\frac{1}{2}$

Yellow Creek 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ 36 54 $\frac{1}{2}$

Two Creeks 21 $\frac{3}{4}$ 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ 47 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ 76 $\frac{1}{2}$

Long Reach 53 $\frac{3}{4}$ 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ 87 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 $\frac{3}{4}$ 111 $\frac{1}{2}$ 130

End Long Reach 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ 92 103 $\frac{3}{4}$ 117 $\frac{1}{2}$ 128 140 $\frac{1}{2}$

Muskingum 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ 42 95 $\frac{3}{4}$ 117 $\frac{1}{2}$ 129 $\frac{1}{2}$ 142 $\frac{1}{2}$ 153 $\frac{1}{2}$ 172

Little Kanawha 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 38 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ 108 $\frac{1}{2}$ 130 141 $\frac{1}{2}$ 155 $\frac{1}{2}$ 166 184 $\frac{1}{2}$

Hockhocking 16 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ 54 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ 124 $\frac{1}{2}$ 140 257 $\frac{1}{2}$ 171 $\frac{1}{2}$ 182 200 $\frac{1}{2}$

Big Kanawha 82 $\frac{1}{2}$ 98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 111 136 $\frac{1}{2}$ 153 206 $\frac{3}{4}$ 228 $\frac{1}{2}$ 240 $\frac{1}{2}$ 253 $\frac{1}{2}$ 264 $\frac{1}{2}$ 283

Gaymansdat 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ 126 $\frac{1}{2}$ 142 $\frac{1}{2}$ 154 $\frac{1}{2}$ 180 $\frac{1}{2}$ 196 $\frac{1}{2}$ 250 $\frac{1}{2}$ 272 $\frac{1}{2}$ 284 297 $\frac{1}{2}$ 308 $\frac{1}{2}$ 326 $\frac{1}{2}$

Sand Creek 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ 140 $\frac{1}{2}$ 156 $\frac{1}{2}$ 169 $\frac{1}{2}$ 194 $\frac{1}{2}$ 211 $\frac{1}{2}$ 265 286 $\frac{3}{4}$ 298 $\frac{1}{2}$ 312 322 $\frac{1}{2}$ 341 $\frac{1}{2}$

Siole 48 $\frac{3}{4}$ 63 $\frac{1}{2}$ 107 189 $\frac{1}{2}$ 205 $\frac{1}{2}$ 218 243 $\frac{1}{2}$ 260 323 $\frac{1}{2}$ 335 $\frac{1}{2}$ 347 $\frac{1}{2}$ 360 $\frac{1}{2}$ 371 $\frac{1}{2}$ 390

Little Miami 126 175 189 $\frac{1}{2}$ 233 $\frac{1}{2}$ 315 $\frac{1}{2}$ 331 $\frac{1}{2}$ 344 $\frac{1}{2}$ 369 $\frac{1}{2}$ 386 $\frac{1}{2}$ 440 461 $\frac{1}{2}$ 473 $\frac{1}{2}$ 487 497 $\frac{1}{2}$ 516 $\frac{1}{2}$

Licking Creek 8 234 183 197 $\frac{1}{2}$ 241 $\frac{1}{2}$ 323 $\frac{1}{2}$ 330 $\frac{1}{2}$ 352 $\frac{1}{2}$ 377 $\frac{1}{2}$ 394 $\frac{1}{2}$ 448 469 $\frac{1}{2}$ 481 $\frac{1}{2}$ 495 505 $\frac{1}{2}$ 524 $\frac{1}{2}$

Big Miami 26 $\frac{3}{4}$ 34 $\frac{3}{4}$ 16 209 $\frac{1}{2}$ 224 $\frac{1}{2}$ 268 350 $\frac{1}{2}$ 366 $\frac{1}{2}$ 379 404 $\frac{1}{2}$ 421 474 $\frac{1}{2}$ 490 $\frac{1}{2}$ 508 $\frac{1}{2}$ 521 $\frac{1}{2}$ 532 $\frac{1}{2}$ 551

Big Bones 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ 196 $\frac{1}{2}$ 242 $\frac{1}{2}$ 256 $\frac{3}{4}$ 300 $\frac{1}{2}$ 383 399 411 $\frac{1}{2}$ 437 453 $\frac{1}{2}$ 507 $\frac{1}{2}$ 529 540 $\frac{1}{2}$ 554 $\frac{1}{2}$ 565 583 $\frac{1}{2}$

Kentucke 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ 76 $\frac{3}{4}$ 103 $\frac{1}{2}$ 111 $\frac{1}{2}$ 231 $\frac{1}{2}$ 286 $\frac{1}{2}$ 302 344 $\frac{1}{2}$ 427 $\frac{1}{2}$ 443 $\frac{1}{2}$ 455 $\frac{1}{2}$ 482 $\frac{1}{2}$ 497 $\frac{1}{2}$ 551 $\frac{1}{2}$ 573 $\frac{1}{2}$ 585 598 $\frac{1}{2}$ 609 $\frac{1}{2}$ 627 $\frac{1}{2}$

Rapids 77 $\frac{1}{2}$ 121 $\frac{1}{2}$ 154 $\frac{1}{2}$ 182 189 315 364 378 $\frac{1}{2}$ 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ 504 $\frac{1}{2}$ 520 $\frac{1}{2}$ 533 $\frac{1}{2}$ 558 $\frac{1}{2}$ 575 $\frac{1}{2}$ 629 650 $\frac{1}{2}$ 662 $\frac{1}{2}$ 676 686 $\frac{1}{2}$ 705 $\frac{1}{2}$

Low Country 155 $\frac{1}{2}$ 233 $\frac{1}{2}$ 277 $\frac{1}{2}$ 320 336 $\frac{1}{2}$ 344 $\frac{1}{2}$ 47 519 $\frac{1}{2}$ 534 $\frac{1}{2}$ 578 660 $\frac{1}{2}$ 676 $\frac{1}{2}$ 689 714 $\frac{1}{2}$ 731 784 $\frac{1}{2}$ 806 $\frac{1}{2}$ 818 $\frac{1}{2}$ 831 $\frac{1}{2}$ 842 $\frac{1}{2}$ 861

Buffalo River 64 $\frac{1}{2}$ 220 $\frac{1}{2}$ 297 $\frac{1}{2}$ 342 374 $\frac{1}{2}$ 401 $\frac{1}{2}$ 409 $\frac{1}{2}$ 53 584 $\frac{1}{2}$ 598 $\frac{1}{2}$ 642 $\frac{1}{2}$ 725 741 753 $\frac{1}{2}$ 779 795 $\frac{1}{2}$ 849 $\frac{1}{2}$ 871 882 $\frac{1}{2}$ 896 $\frac{1}{2}$ 907 925 $\frac{1}{2}$

Wabash 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ 162 $\frac{1}{2}$ 317 $\frac{1}{2}$ 395 439 $\frac{1}{2}$ 471 $\frac{1}{2}$ 498 $\frac{1}{2}$ 500 $\frac{1}{2}$ 63 681 $\frac{1}{2}$ 696 739 $\frac{1}{2}$ 822 $\frac{1}{2}$ 838 850 $\frac{1}{2}$ 876 $\frac{1}{2}$ 892 $\frac{1}{2}$ 946 $\frac{1}{2}$ 968 $\frac{1}{2}$ 980 993 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1004 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1022 $\frac{1}{2}$

Big Cove 42 $\frac{3}{4}$ 140 204 $\frac{1}{2}$ 360 $\frac{1}{2}$ 437 $\frac{1}{2}$ 482 514 $\frac{1}{2}$ 541 $\frac{1}{2}$ 549 $\frac{1}{2}$ 67 724 $\frac{1}{2}$ 738 $\frac{1}{2}$ 782 $\frac{1}{2}$ 865 881 893 $\frac{1}{2}$ 919 935 $\frac{1}{2}$ 989 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1011 1022 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1036 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1047 1065 $\frac{1}{2}$

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[65] A P P E N D I X. No. III.

A List of the different Nations and Tribes of Indians in the Northern District of North America, with the number of their fighting Men, &c. &c.

Names.	Number of each	Their dwelling grounds.	Their hunting grounds.
Mohocks	160	Mohock river	Between the Mohock river and lake George
Oneidas	300	East side of Onida lake, and on the head waters of the east branch of Susquehannah.	
Tufcaroras	200	Between the Onidas and Onandagoes.	Between Oneida Lake and Lake Ontario.
Onondagoes	260	Near the Onondago Lake.	Between the Onondago Lake, and the mouth of the Seneca river, near Otwego.
Cayugas	200	On two small lakes called the Cayugas, near the north branch of Susquehannah.	Near the north branch of Susquehannah.
Senecas	1000	Seneca country, on the waters of Susquehannah, the waters of lake Ontario, and on the heads of Ohio River.	Their chief hunting country, where they live.
Aughquagas	150	East branch of Susquehannah River, and on Aughquaga.	On the east branch of Susquehannah, and on Aughquaga.
Nanticokes	100	Utlanango, Chaghnet, Otwego, and on the east branch of Susquehannah.	Where they respectively reside.
Mohickons	100		
Conoys	30		
Munfays	150	At Diahago and other villages up the north branch of Susquehannah.	Where they respectively reside.
Sapoones	30		
Delawares	150		

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Names.	Number of each.	Their dwelling grounds.	Their hunting grounds
Delawares	600	Between the Ohio and Lake Erie and on the branches of Beaver Creek, Mufkingum, and Guyehago.	Between the Ohio River and Lake Erie.
Shawanoes	300	On Sioto and a branch of Mufkingum.	Between the Ohio River and Lake Erie.
Wayondotts	300	In villages near Sandufky.	On the head branches of Sioto.
Mohickons			
Coghnawagas			
Twightwees	250	Miami River near Fort Miami.	On the ground, where they reside.
Kickapoos	1000	On the Wabash and its branches.	Between the mouth of the Wabash and the Miami Rivers.
Pyankehaws			
Mufquitons			
Ouiatanons			
Kafkaskias			
Piorias	300	Near the fettlements in the Illinois country.	In the Illinois country.
Mitchigamas			
Wiyondotts	250		
Ottawas	400	Near Fort Detroit.	About Lake Erie.
Putawatimes	150		
Chepawas & Ottawas	200	On Saguinam bay, a part of Lake Huron.	On Saguinam bay, and Lake Huron.
Kickapoos	400	Near the entrance of Lake Superior, and not far from St. Mary's.	About Lake Superior.
Chepawas	550	Near bay Puan, a part of Lake Michigan.	About bay Puan, and Lake Michigan.
Mynomanies			
Saukeys			
Putawatimes	200	Near Fort St. Josephs.	The country between Lake Michigan and the Miami Fort.
Ottawas	150		
Kickapoofes			
Outtagomies	4,000	On Lake Michigan and between it, and the Mississippi.	Where they respectively reside
Mufquatons			
Mifcotins			
Outtamacks			
Mufquakeys			

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[67]

Names.	Number of each.	Their dwelling grounds.	Their hunting grounds.
Oiwegatches	100	At Swagatchey in Canada, and on the River St. Lawrence.	Near where they live.
Connefedagoes / Coghnewagoes	300		Near Montreal.
Orondocks	100	Near Trois Riviers.	Near where they live.
Abonakies	150		
Alagonkins	100		
La Sue	10,000	Westward of Lake Superior and the Mississippi.	In the country where they reside.
Ottawas	200	On the east side of Lake Michigan, 21 miles from Michilimackinac	In the country between the Lakes Michigan and Huron
Chepawas	1000	On Lake Superior, and the Islands in that Lake.	Round Lake Superior.

F I N I S.

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Entered at STATIONERS HALL.

E R R A T A.

Page 3, in the 24th line, instead of *in*, read *A/*.

Page 20, in the 17th line, dele "*Cayahoga*" and infert, *It*

Page 21, in the second line, instead of "*Mufkingum*", read *Cayahoga*.

Page 23, in the sixth line, instead " of a branch of the Cut-tawa", read *a branch of the Cherokee*.

Page 25, in the 15th line, instead of "*Quiaghtena*", read *Wabash*.

Page 45, in the note at the bottom of the page, instead of [See "*annexed plan for a Description of the Illinois Country*"] read *See the annexed plan of the villages in the Illinois Country*.

Page 50, in the sixth line, instead of "*Heron*", read *Huron*.

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